

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE.

This is one of the main objects of the motion of which notice has been given for next Session. Not its sole object, for it is to be made with a view to a contest beyond itself; but its special, and, for the time being, its principal, object. It is our first business, in point of time—our first, also, in point of logical method. To carry a position, we must begin by ascertaining as exactly as we can what are its capabilities of resistance; of what sort they are; in what relation they stand one to another; what particular means of aggression they call for, and in what combination; in a word, what feature of it constitutes the supreme difficulty to be overcome. Most of us, probably, have already formed an opinion on the matter; some, possibly, a very accurate one; but none of us have yet been able to test it. It may be that the politico-ecclesiastical system we are going to assail possesses sources of strength quite different from those with which we have been familiar; or sources that we have wholly overlooked, or that minister to its continued existence in proportions varying very materially from our common estimates of them. And, on the other hand, if we saw things just as they are, or if by putting pressure upon them we could compel them to discover to us their actual condition, it may be that the Church of England, regarded as a political institution—and it is only as such that we place ourselves in antagonism to it—like that type of Imperialism which has just lately collapsed in France, would turn out to be not merely founded upon a wrong principle, but through the wide extent of its administration, hollow as a drum—showy, pompous, dazzling, but without real substance, corrupt, illusory. At any rate, we must try to get at the facts of the case, not only for our own guidance, but also for the correction and enlightenment of public opinion; and this can only be done by “a reconnaissance in force.”

There is most likely a good deal of truth in the cautionary suggestion not unfrequently put before us, sometimes in kindness, oftener perhaps by way of menace, to the effect that “political Dissenters” have an extremely inadequate notion of the depth of the foundations,

and the solidity of the walls and buttresses, of the edifice they are so intent upon levelling with the dust. But we hope we shall be pardoned the expression of our belief that the members of the Established Church of this country are strangely, and, in many instances, incredibly, blind to the unreal and pretentious character of the politico-ecclesiastical system which they abet, and to its many weak places in prospect of an earnest assault. It is so out of keeping with the general spirit of the age; it so resembles “the temporal power” of the Pope, not only as an anachronism, but in its “*non possumus*,” and it has so manifestly got beyond its period of development and adaptation, that its warmest admirers and most zealous friends are hardly conscious of the force of will they are obliged to exert even to tolerate its many absurdities. The human mind, it is true, can accommodate itself to almost anything, and habit reconciles it to the most grotesque—not to say the most painful—anomalies; but it is very questionable whether the vast majority of worshippers at what is called the National Church have the most remote idea of the extent to which the system with which they are associated is undermined by intellectual and political agencies and forces long since brought into action. The ideal to which they are attached, and in which they have confidence, is an altogether different one from that which actually exists—and it is certainly time that means should be taken to force upon their attention the ugly and mischievous facts over which they allow custom to throw a thick veil of sophistry.

The strength of the English Church Establishment, as against the friends of religious equality, is confessedly great, but then, in the judgment of the non-established communities, it is very largely derived from considerations which have no basis in fact. That which the “political Dissenters” are endeavouring to destroy is not what Churchmen are religiously intent upon preserving; and that which is cherished in the memories and guarded by the affections of devout Episcopalians, is not that which the Liberationists will either endanger or assail. The misfortune which seems to cleave like a curse to the present situation is that it is created for the most part by the cumulative results of past untruthfulness. As in France at this moment, so in the politico-ecclesiastical contest going on in England, the grand and, for the present at least, insuperable difficulty which lies in the way of a more hopeful state of things is the impossibility of getting a frank recognition of things as they are—of the indubitable rights, the probable motives, the avowed aims, and the ulterior designs of the aggressive party. At present, these are things which can no more be discerned by average Establishmentarians than the opposite side of a valley on a misty morning. They believe they are defending, not their own exclusive privileges, but God’s truth. The traditions that have come down to them confound the maintenance of their legal supremacy with the preservation of their ecclesiastical organisation and independence. “We cannot stand inactive by, and witness the demolition of our Church by her enemies,” they say—as if this were a true description of the commencing struggle, instead of being and implying a huge misrepresentation of it. Now, it is desirable, and we hope it will be found

feasible, to root out and trample down such like fungous and seedy growths of bygone falsehoods, and to substitute a real for a merely apparent field of conflict. A reconnaissance in force will greatly contribute to this result.

It should be borne in mind that the issue to be joined next Session is one of principles which have a much wider bearing than such as is only national and local upon the position and progress of Christianity in the world. The present is, perhaps, one of the most critical periods of human history. All old-world arrangements are being, one after another, tossed into the crucible of a relentless investigation, and the true relation of spiritual to civil authority, and the kind of power belonging exclusively to each, are not excepted from the ordinary topics of discussion. The class of prejudices which is almost invincible here is of no great account on the Continent, while, on the other hand, many processes are there considered available, which here we should repudiate. Until the State-Church question shall be settled in England, or, at any rate, until the lines upon which the ultimate settlement is to be based shall be fully disclosed through the Legislature, there is some danger lest the spiritual element should be dealt with in some other countries of Europe as entirely subordinate to the political. Of course, it would be presumption to anticipate that England’s mode of disposing of the question would rule the mode in which it will be disposed of abroad. But there can hardly be room for doubting that what we do in these isles—or, in connection with this subject, we may now more correctly say in this island—for putting the relations of the Civil Power to religious institutions upon a permanent basis of reason and equity, will exercise a very powerful modifying effect upon the manner in which the question will be settled on the Continent. And this furnishes an additional reason for making a sort of reconnaissance along the whole line. Our first demonstration should be made to cover the entire ground we intend to occupy. The blow struck in the next Parliamentary campaign must be struck for truths which will be applicable to Christian communities and interests all the world over. Society has a right to expect that the contest about to be initiated shall be once for all, and for the fulfilment of this expectation, we trust, ample guarantees will be given by the form in which the question will be presented to the House of Commons.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE autumnal meeting of the Baptist Union was held at Cambridge last week, and its proceedings were of an unusually interesting and successful character. It was natural that the Nonconformist body which has been foremost in missionary work, should have put that work first in the order of its proceedings. We notice that in this connection great stress was laid upon the state of the missions in Jamaica, and that it was urged, in view of the recent disestablishment of the State Church in that colony, that more should be done for the missions of the society there. The address of the President, the Rev. W. Robinson, was well received, and, it is to be hoped, interested the audience. A message from the committee referred to the meeting of the Union at a University town, and, in very appropriate terms, to the good feeling and hospitality which had been shown by Churchmen, which at one time would have been impossible. Most of the subjects afterwards discussed were, as they should be, of a

practical religious nature, the Rev. J. Jackson Goadby, of Leicester, leading the way by a clearly-written and devout paper on the Influence of Business on the Christian Life. This was succeeded by a concise address from Mr. W. S. Aldis, on University Tests, followed by one of the best speeches on the same subject from Mr. Neville Goodman—another Nonconformist Cambridge graduate—that we have ever read. The meeting adopted by acclamation a resolution in favour of the equal rights of Dissenters to the Universities. Duties next took the place of rights, and the augmentation of ministers' salaries was considered. The Rev. W. Brock, jun., of Hampstead, followed in a paper on missing links in Church life, of a practical and valuable character. Education and the Pastor's Retiring Fund next came up, and home and Irish missions next, after which the Union, on the motion of the Rev. J. T. Brown, of Northampton, considered ecclesiastical affairs, and adopted a series of resolutions relating to the Education question, to the Church in Wales, and to Mr. Miall's proposed motion. The Baptist Union was the first public body to send delegates to the first Anti-State Church Conference, and the same Union is now the first public body to support Mr. Miall and pronounce in favour of active measures being taken to secure the disestablishment of the English Church. But our Baptist friends are, as they have always been, thorough, and they have done exactly what we should have expected from them. The public meetings held in connection with the Union appear to have been remarkably attended. We hear, from all sides, high encomiums upon college hospitality. It may be hoped, and expected, that the intercourse of Churchmen with Dissenters thus, for a time, established, will lead to mutual respect and good feeling.

Some of our readers may probably not have noticed an advertisement in our last number of certain resolutions recently adopted at the London Board of Congregational Ministers. The ministers propose to establish a sort of Presbytery, or College of Cardinals, and socially and ecclesiastically to excommunicate every other minister of whose faith or life they do not, or do not choose to, approve. It is to be presumed that such resolutions as these would not be passed without grave occasion. Laws are made to punish offences that are known to exist, and the conduct of the Board suggests that there are now in London some Congregational ministers of bad faith and of equally bad life. It may be so, but if so, we are happily unaware of the fact. If it be not so, the resolutions are simply an expression of ecclesiastical arrogance, which will surely meet, in due time, its due reward. A Congregational minister, writing under the signature of "Vigilans," in our columns to-day, ably deals with the action of the Board. We recognise, with him, that the resolutions are a profound mistake. Any strong man—good as strong, and "orthodox" as both—could snap his fingers at them, decline "recognition," and, in another sense, compel it. The bad are to be left to moral influence, which is of surer effect than any want of recognition. However, we are happy to believe that the resolutions will, in practical working, be of no more value than waste paper; that they will, in the long run, prevent no good, and minister to no evil passions. They will drop, as they should drop, into oblivion; or if some ministers should feel bound by them, their Churches may "recognise" men whom the ministers may excommunicate. If they may not, we have failed to understand the principles of Congregational Independence.

One of the last places at which we should have expected a discussion on the separation of Church and State is the Social Science Congress at Newcastle. At the Saturday meeting of the body, however, Mr. Alexander Innes introduced the question—more in a legal than in a religious form. The most remarkable speech was made by Mr. Newmarch, the President of the Statistical Society, who referred, in expressive terms, to the probable early disestablishment of the English Church. Mr. Michael and Dr. Pankhurst spoke on the voluntary side. Is not this a sign of the times? We give a report of the discussion in another column.

It is exceedingly natural that High-Churchmen should feel some gratification with the recent decision of the Court of Arches in Mr. Bennett's case. Accordingly we find that the Frome Branch of the English Church Union has passed resolutions expressing its satisfaction that the Arches Court has decided that "the doctrines of the real objective presence in the Eucharistic sacrifice and the adoration of Christ in the blessed Sacrament are intended to be maintained by the Articles and formularies of the English Church." We have said

that the Arches Court could scarcely have done otherwise; but what will be the effect when it comes to be generally known that these are the legal doctrines of the Established Church? Perhaps that effect will not be so satisfactory to the English Church Union.

There appears to be some disappointment at what is considered to be the small sum hitherto contributed for the support of the future Irish Episcopal Church. The annual subscriptions are about 20,000*l.*, and the capital sum about a quarter of a million. In one respect this has certainly an ugly look. Is this all that Irish Episcopalians are willing to give out of their own pockets for the support of the Church for which they were all ready to rise against England and even to die, and, in fact, to do everything but pay? At present it looks something like this, but it only looks like it. It must be remembered that these people are not in the habit of giving, and that there is a very large endowment left to the Church, which may, or may not be sufficient for its actual needs. The *Daily Telegraph* is sarcastic on the subject at the expense of the Episcopalians, but we see no reason to adopt its tone. There is more in what is written by the Rev. W. G. Carrol, of Dublin, to the *Spectator*, which we quote elsewhere. Mr. Carrol believes that "God decided for disestablishment and disendowment as plainly as He decided against Baal; and that, if the re-endowment scheme has collapsed, the fact is only in accord with the leading axiom of modern social science, viz., that every age and generation should maintain its own religion." This is now the condition of the only healthy energies of the Church. Disestablishment and disendowment are doing more than we expected they would do if they are teaching this lesson to others as quickly and thoroughly as they have taught it to Mr. Carrol.

When the Sydney correspondent of the *Times* writes that the sitting of the Synod of the Church of England "has lately imparted a sombre hue to our streets," he can only refer to dress, and not to personal looks; for clergymen are generally, as they should be, more remarkable for cheerfulness than for gloom. The subject principally discussed at this Synod is worth notice. The Chancellor of the diocese moved a resolution in favour of the continued appointment of bishops under the sanction of the Crown in the following terms, which we copy at length, because they are likely to be of historical value:—

That the Synod having taken into consideration the resolution passed by the Provincial Synod of the United Church of England and Ireland, within the colony of New South Wales, on the 17th of May, 1869, in reference to the mode in which colonial bishops should be appointed, is of opinion that it is desirable that bishops in this province continue to be appointed under such sanction of the Crown as is implied by the issue of a license or mandate for consecration; and that such license or mandate specify in each case the sphere of the territorial action of the Bishop to be consecrated, and as a general rule be obtained only in consequence of a request proceeding from, or concurred in by, the church in the diocese or district within which the bishop is to exercise his functions.

To this resolution Canon Vidal moved an amendment in favour of the election of bishops by the synod of each diocese, which, we all know, corresponds with the primitive mode of election. The discussion upon this subject lasted two days. The "previous question" was once moved but negatived by forty-five to thirty-two. The amendment was also negatived, and then the original motion was agreed to. How far it expresses ecclesiastical, or how far it expresses political sentiments only, we are not informed. Probably the two sentiments were mixed.

THE PROPOSED RE-ENDOWMENT OF THE IRISH CHURCH.

The Rev. W. G. Carrol, of Dublin, writes as follows to the *Spectator*:—"The money is not coming in to the Irish Church Body, and some are putting the blame on the lethargy and inefficiency of the body. From the complainants' point of view the criticism seems fair enough, but there is another aspect of the matter, which assigns a totally different reason for the commercial failure, and although that interpretation is not popular just now, it is no more than justice to many Christian people to mention it. People won't re-endow. Why? Because they think, rightly or wrongly, that they ought not to re-endow, and that if they do re-endow they are giving against God and going against God. Their reasoning has at least a Christian appearance, and in brief here it is:—'In the Lent of 1869, when the great debate was about to begin, in obedience to our bishops, we all, laity and clergy, in all our churches throughout all Ireland, with one voice besought God to take the matter into His own hands, and to order the issue according to His own good pleasure. We thus left the result to Him, as plainly as Elijah left the issue between himself and Baal to 'the God

that answereth by fire.' God decided for disestablishment and disendowment as plainly as He decided against Baal, and for all that, now we are told that we are false to Christ unless we fly at God's face with our right hand and with our left hand, and unless we make over again what He has unmade.' I don't see how any one who believes in a God that heareth prayer can repudiate this simple common-sense Scriptural reasoning, nor why any one need go farther to seek for the causes of the collapse of the re-endowment scheme. It is worth while to notice, also (as an 'undesigned coincidence' between Divine and human truth), that this refusal to re-endow when God has disendowed, is not only siding with God's side, but that it is also in accord with the leading axiom of modern social science, namely, that every age and generation should maintain its own religion, as well as feed its own poor, and pay its own soldiers, and fight its own wars. This is now the condition of the only healthy energies of the Church, her missionary agencies; and although this condition will not do for 'taking care of Domb,' and for pampering the Mamelukes of an ecclesiastical Caesarism, still it is the condition which Christ appointed for His Church. It was in this condition that Apostles ministered, in this condition that the Church conquered, and was conquering, the world, until, in the most disastrous hour that ever befel her, Constantine, by 'endowing and establishing,' made the kingdom of our Lord a kingdom of this world.'"

CHURCH AND STATE AT THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

At one of the sectional meetings of the Social Science Congress, held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. A. TAYLOR INNES, advocate, Edinburgh, author of "The Law of Creeds in Scotland," read a paper on the question—"Are there any relations of Church and State which must always and necessarily exist, whether the Church be established or not?" He maintained that the interest excited by questions of establishment and disestablishment had injuriously withdrawn the attention of jurists from this more fundamental question. Voluntaries talked as if disestablishment would end all difficulties; Churchmen, again, talked as if the Church in disestablishment would be ruined, and could not fulfil her functions. Both were wrong; for Church and State can exist separately, but never without having most important relations to each other. Take, for example, questions of property. If a body of men have wrongful possession of a church, for example, or a sum of money, on the pretence that they are the religious body to which the money was given, their opponents must appeal to the civil tribunals; and the civil tribunals must investigate the differences, perhaps of doctrine, between them. They are religious differences to the parties; to the judge they are mere questions of fact. And there are no bounds to the magnitude of the questions that may thus arise. All churches have contributions and endowments of some sort, held by trustees or otherwise, and these have often become enormously accumulated. But in whatever way held, if it is handed over to a church and vested in it, property, once it is privately gifted to a church, is in a very different category from the emoluments of an establishment. What the State gives, the State may have a right to withdraw; but the State has (ordinarily) no right to take away what it never gave. It requires, at least, a very different and a very extraordinary case for this; consequently, even in respect of property, the ultimate legal relations of the State and the Church are those unconnected with establishment. But besides property, questions will constantly arise about Church offices, Church salaries, Church privileges, and Church membership; and that even in a disestablished Church. The courts must deal with all these, so far as the civil interests are concerned, and especially in slander cases, or where character is affected. Yet all non-established churches have rules and tribunals of their own for judging of these matters in the first instance, and the question for lawyers will be how far they are bound in equity to acknowledge these, even in judging of civil results; and, also, how to deal with their own civil results without interfering with the proper religious work of the Church. A non-established church is therefore necessarily connected in many ways with the law and with the State, or civil power. And the question inevitably arises—what claims of a church can the State admit? The most important of these, as common to churches, Protestant and Roman Catholic, and familiar to every educated man in Europe, is the claim of independence and self-government, or autonomy. This, as Guizot points out in his history of civilisation, was, historically, the spring of what is called, in modern times, liberty of conscience, though as the middle ages passed on the Church came not only to claim freedom from the tyranny of the State, but in its turn to tyrannise over it. The lawyers of Northern Europe have generally rejected the higher claims of the Ultramontane, as distinguished from the Liberal, e.g. the Gallican Church. But the lowest claim, that of autonomy and self-government, must to some extent be allowed by all States in the case of voluntary churches. The Privy Council found in some cases from the Cape of Good Hope, that all religious bodies may under English law, not only adopt articles and rules of religious association, but may also "constitute a tribunal (ecclesiastical) to determine whether the rules of the association have been violated by any of its members or not," and the decisions of this tribunal, our courts will give effect to, against those who have submitted to it. Practically, this seems enough to ensure self-government and independence, provided it be understood that the business of the

ecclesiastical voluntary tribunal is to settle the spiritual matters, as that of the ordinary civil courts is to look after temporal, and that the former, though called voluntary, yet being founded on conscience, are to the members as fundamental as the latter. After some further remarks on the legal bearings of the question, Mr. Innes said there seems no reason why revolutionary churches in modern lands should be less free than original Christianity was under Rome; but the working of this, that "constituting of religious societies within the State, but independent of the State," which even Mr. Renan calls the great necessity of Europe in the future, is certainly one of the problems best worth inquiring into on the part of the speculative jurist.

Mr. NEWMARCH said the section was very much indebted to Mr. Innes for the lucid and calm manner in which he had stated in his paper the outlines of the very intricate questions which were involved in this subject—a subject which, he felt sure, would in the next few years occupy a considerable space of public attention both in England and in Scotland. He was not sure, however, that he had not somewhat exaggerated the difficulties of the law with respect to this matter. The opinion he was about to give was not that of a lawyer, but of a layman who had paid considerable attention to the question for a long period. During the last twenty-five years a series of cases had arisen out of the voluntary unestablished church system, which had gone to show the position these bodies occupied with regard to the English law. The first case was that of Lady Hewley, who had left money for the endowment of certain chapels in the northern parts of England. In the course of time a change took place in the doctrines taught in those chapels, until at last they became quite Unitarian in their character; and the question then arose as to whether the property left by that lady ought to be continued to be applied to the support of these chapels. After a lapse of twenty years, the House of Lords decided that the property could no longer be continued to be applied to the support of those chapels, in which the doctrines taught were contrary to the terms of the bequest. In a more recent case, the minister of a Dissenting chapel at Reading, having become unpopular with his congregation, was dismissed from his office, and he then applied to the Court of Chancery to be reinstated. The Court of Chancery, however, decided against him on the ground that the deed of trust contained nothing that gave to him the appointment for life, and that, therefore, the trustees, having acted in accordance with the proper forms, had the power of dismissing him as though he were a servant. These cases were good exemplifications of the manner in which the law of England operated as regarded these voluntary societies. Thus these associations might go on administering their own affairs till they fell out amongst themselves, when the courts of law would take cognisance of their rights under the law. Therefore voluntary ecclesiastical associations were regarded by the law in exactly the same light as though they were voluntary associations of persons for any other purposes. The case of the disestablishment of the Irish Church had clearly shown that a distinction was to be drawn between property given to the Church by the public and property which had been given to the Church by private benefactors. When the time came for carrying into effect the disestablishment of the churches of England and Scotland—which he did not believe was very far off—nor did he think the churches would be worse for such a course—(Hear, hear)—that distinction would have to be kept in mind. At the same time the property taken from the Church would have to be applied to educational and other purposes of a similar character, as it would be incompetent for the State to apply funds that had been hitherto appropriated to perpetual purposes to such purposes as paying off the national debt or lessening the army and navy estimates. Again, it was not to be forgotten that, during the last thirty-five or forty years, a large sum, amounting to 5,000,000*l.*, had been expended by private persons in building and repairing churches; whilst the sites of those edifices had in most instances been given by the lords of the manor or by other private individuals; and, therefore, it would be unjust to deprive the Church of that part of her property. The time had arrived when it must be acknowledged that religious opinions, without exception, must depend entirely upon their own force and weight, independently of any external support.

Mr. MICHAEL pointed out that the Reading case referred to had shown that, while the law was ready to take cognisance of any dispute concerning money or property that might arise in respect of a particular religious body, it did not interfere in order to enforce the readmission of a member into such association in the event of his having been even wrongfully expelled.

Dr. PANKHURST said the question under discussion might be divided into three heads—First, What was the status of an Established Church? secondly, what was the status of a non-Established Church? and, thirdly, What was the process by which an Established Church passed into the status and condition of a non-Established Church? With regard to the first part of the question, the doctrine of the Royal supremacy informed them what the status of the Established Church was. The law only took cognisance of questions arising in the Church of England, which were strictly legal questions, to be dealt with and determined as any other ordinary legal question. The contract which bound together the members of the Church of England had been entered into by the consent of Parliament, whereas the contract which was entered into between members of non established churches had been entered into by private individuals only. Thus, the Established Church was governed by statute, and the non-established churches by mere

private contract. Opinions had advanced so much of recent years that members of the Church of England were no longer content that their consciences should be regulated according to statute, and they were already demanding that their consciences should be left untrammelled by statute; and that, in fact, it was quite time that the Church of England had ceased to be a mere Government department, as it was at present.

The SECRETARY spoke of the difference between the position of the Established Church and voluntary bodies.

LORD NEAVES said they were not discussing whether there should be an Established Church or not; and therefore he need not go into that question. As far as he had been able to see, there never was a church that possessed more freedom in its spiritual matters than the Church of Scotland at the present moment. It had church tribunals composed entirely of Churchmen, in every separate church, and the tribunals went up to the General Assembly; the Church did not acknowledge the Queen's supremacy; and there was no appeal from the General Assembly to the Queen in Council or any other body. The ordinary courts of law had a power in reference to the Established Church, as well as to other churches, when they entrenched upon civil matters and rights. As to the question of the rights of unestablished churches, he thought it had been correctly stated by Mr. Innes. When civil matters arose they must act according to the law. The minister of the Church of England held his office for life, whereas the minister of the non-established church was liable to dismissal as any other servant, unless the deed of association directed otherwise. The question asked by Lord Campbell, when his attention was drawn to a dispute in a non-established church, was, "What are the rules of your club? You are a mere club, and nothing more in the eyes of the law." The courts could only meddle with non-established churches in cases where pecuniary questions were involved.

We learn from Jamaica that, in the absence of any opposition from the Bishop of Kingston or the Church community in the island, Her Majesty's assent has been given to the bill for the disendowment of the Church of England in Jamaica.

The Dean of Ripon (Dr. McNeill) has been seized with an attack of bronchitis. The remedies found necessary for reducing the complaint were so severe that they brought the Dean to a state of considerable weakness.

The *Record* notices the death at Cannes of Mr. J. Evans, who was the originator of that journal, and who also set on foot the well-known French religious paper, the *Esperance*. He was seventy-eight years of age.

KEBLE COLLEGE.—The *John Bull* is requested to state that the number of persons already matriculated, or who have entered their names for matriculation, at Keble College, Oxford, in the academical year 1870-1, is so large that it is not probable that any more can be admitted before October, 1871.

THE CHURCH CONGRESS.—The Earl of Shaftesbury declines to attend the Church Congress which is to be held next month at Southampton, in consequence of his disagreement from the views of the President (Bishop Wilberforce of Winchester) and the Bishop of Peterborough, who is to take part in the proceedings.

PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.—A Pastoral, signed by seventeen Archbishops and Bishops of Germany, has been issued. The meaning and substance of the document is contained in the following paragraph:—"We, therefore, hereby declare that the present Vatican Council is a lawful Ecumenical Council; that as little as any other Council has the present Council put forward or created novel teaching at variance with the old, but that it has only developed, explained, and, in express refutation of modern errors, positively enjoined the belief in ancient truth, implicitly contained and conscientiously preserved in the foundations of our faith; and that the votes of this Council, having been solemnly and publicly proclaimed by the Head of the Church, must be considered as binding on all believers." Some of the German bishops held aloof from this declaration.

JEWISH DISSENTERS.—The newly erected West London Synagogue of British Jews in Upper Berkeley-street was consecrated on Thursday afternoon. The building, which has cost more than 50,000*l.*, has been erected mainly by the exertions of a number of Jews who are anxious for a reform of certain portions of the old ritual, and neither Dr. Adler, the chief rabbi, nor any of the orthodox Jewish ministers, were present. The officiating ministers were the Rev. Professor Marks, the Rev. Albert Löwy, and the Rev. Philip Magnus. Professor Marks delivered an address, in which he endeavoured to show the necessity for departing from the stereotyped worship and "cold, withering formalism" of the past generation; and stated that though the movement which he had helped to inaugurate in the Jewish body had been looked upon coldly by their ecclesiastical superiors, it had been warmly and increasingly welcomed by the thoughtful and reflecting portion of the laity. He added that he trusted the new building would prove to be a house not merely of prayer, but also of intelligent pulpit-teaching, and that its services would be aided and enlivened by choral music.

REVISION OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE.—"D. B.," one of the New Testament revisers, is driven, rather against his will, to reply to the "ridiculously strong" language in which Bishop Cox, of Western New York, assails the movement set on foot by Convocation for the revision of the English Bible. The bishop would have had every corner of the globe

"consulted," or, as he prefers to put it, a correspondence opened with "eminent persons in America and the colonies," to "ascertain what kind of revision, if any, would be likely to afford satisfaction, and to gain acceptance among Christians in those populous and growing parts." "D. B." shows that this is impracticable. He adds:—"Not only does the work proceed with no undue haste, but it has all, when done, to undergo careful revision, and I feel confident that in due time all those on both sides of the Atlantic, and wherever the English language is spoken, who have any right to be heard on such a subject, will be heard with the utmost deference as to the merits of the work, both as a whole and in every detail. The revisers are too intent on the great object which all must have in view not to hail every improvement on their work, however minute, and from whatever quarter it may come. But some party had to start the movement, and now that it is in progress, men with Bishop Cox's views had better reserve their tossin of alarm until some attempt is made to force upon the reluctant English-speaking lovers of the Bible even the best revision of their Authorised Version."

Religious and Denominational News.

THE BAPTIST UNION.

The autumnal session of the Baptist Union was commenced at Cambridge on Wednesday morning last, under the presidency of the Rev. Wm. Robinson, of that town. The session took place in St. Andrew's-street Chapel, and lasted five hours. There was a large attendance of delegates, and the galleries were crowded by the public. The opening of the session was preceded by a devotional service, at the termination of which

The CHAIRMAN (having appropriately welcomed the delegates) delivered his address. It commenced with a *résumé* of Baptist history on the Continent, in the course of which it was pointed out how disastrously the cruelties practised by the Germans 300 years since on the Anabaptists had recoiled on themselves. With the exception of the Anabaptists of Munster, he claimed for the Baptists of the Continent in the sixteenth century a high place in the estimation of all good men. They furnished the earliest martyrs of the Reformation, and in multitudes sealed with their blood the truths which, rightly received, would have preserved Central and Northern Europe from the religious corruptions and civil convulsions of succeeding centuries. The German Anabaptists had risen from the dead. Seventy thousand converted Germans were now numbered in connection with that movement of which Mr. Oncken was the leader. Their brethren there were now, like their predecessors three centuries ago, almost all poor, but they were distinguished by a living faith in the love of God manifested in Christ Jesus our Lord. The chairman then dwelt upon the unity of the Bible. The same God who is proclaimed in its opening verse was made known in its last page, and in all that intervened between the two. Let them take any other ancient writings relating to theology and religion—of course excepting those borrowed from the Bible—and put them in one collection as large as the Bible, and what had they? A very chaos of puerility, contradictions, and filth. His own study of the language of prophecy led him to the conclusion apparent that in the Apocalypse they had a bird's-eye view, not of the petty events with which many of the expositors had encumbered their interpretations, but of the great leading events of the world from the time of John to the present hour; an extended prophecy which nothing could account for but the foreknowledge and decrees of God. But there were men who in the nineteenth century assured them that nothing supernatural ever occurred, implying that every historian who recorded a miracle was a deceiver; consequently that the Bible which beyond every other book proclaimed and produced holiness, was more crowded than any other book in the world.

"We deny miracles," said Dr. Schwartz, preaching at the annual meeting of the German Protestant Association at Berlin, "knowing the universe to be governed by fixed laws." Ah! Dr. Schwartz, do you know so much of the universe as that? The sole question, Doctor, is, whether we are to disbelieve all the prophets, evangelists, and apostles, because of your notions of universal being; or to receive the very simple persuasion that you do not comprehend the universe. Faith should ever rest on evidence. Our faith rests partly on the testimony of many witnesses who have given such proofs of intelligence and veracity as few men have it in their power to give. We cannot exchange faith sustained by evidences greatly varied, and to us of overwhelming force, for a faith which rests on no evidence at all.

Professor Huxley, in his recent great speech, expressed the opinion that though in all historical and geological time he can find no proof of life save what sprang from life, if it were given him to look beyond the abyss of geological time, he should expect to find life evolved "from such matters as ammonium carbonates, or alates, and tartrates, alkaline, and earthy phosphates, and water, without the aid of light." That it was never so evolved now by the aid of light was admitted, but the Professor was of opinion that on the other side of the abyss of geological time it was evolved without the aid of light, and this opinion he called an act of philosophical faith! How did common sense and Christian faith alike rejoice to turn from such a creed to

Him who revealed himself in the Bible under the name of "I AM," "God," who "giveth to all life, and breath to all things." He (Mr. Robinson) believed the first chapter of Genesis contained the only true account of the origin of the world, and as the fruit of fourteen years' thoroughly careful study, he hesitated not to avow the firm persuasion that ere long existing geological theories would give place to the inspired cosmogony. Adverting to the present war he thought that the disbanding of standing armies, the introduction of some means of arbitration in cases of national disputes, were purposes into which they must be prepared to throw their whole souls without any delay, that so they might help to prepare the way of our Lord whose name is called the Prince of Peace. Touching on the subject of Christian union, he said:—

To say nothing of the abortive, though vigorous efforts to produce it by a league among all Episcopalians, it is notorious that the Protestant Episcopalians of England are yearning after union with other sects. The estimable bishop of the diocese declared not long ago that he should welcome the separation of Church and State if by that means Nonconformists should be brought in; and when a proposal was introduced into Convocation respecting union with Wesleyans, an amendment was moved, and, I believe, carried *nem. con.*, that for the term Wesleyans the word Nonconformists be substituted. We cannot be indifferent to these signs of the times, nor fail to rejoice in them. But the religion that is from above is first pure, then peaceable. All things but purity are to be sacrificed to peace; but to purity even peace itself must be sacrificed. Our Episcopalian friends are opening their arms that we may go to them. They seem to forget that there is an alternative, viz., that they should come to us, which they might do by accepting that Christian rule which now they define and neglect. "What," says their catechism, "is required of persons to be baptized?" Answer: "Repentance and faith." If our good friends, instead of repeating their own words, would act upon them, we should get a little nearer to union. In truth, however, any system of comprehension to be enacted must involve far greater changes than these. We hail with delight the changing views of Episcopalianism as to their own freedom from governmental control, because we believe that such emancipation will bring with it untold spiritual blessings to themselves; but we are compelled to remember that if that point were settled, the whole Puritan controversy still remains. A few persons, doubtless, perhaps more than a few, will be attracted to the Episcopalian fold by the growing liberality of those within it, but I am mistaken if the passing generation do not see among Nonconformists a far more distinctive organisation of saints, a greater reverence between the Church and the world than now exists among the Episcopalian. In the meanwhile one thing is clear. Union is to be desired with inexpressible desire, but it must be Christian union; and the rule is given us "whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rules, let us mind the same thing."

The Chairman concluded his address with an anticipation of the downfall of idolatry and superstition, and the coming of the kingdom of Christ, and sat down amid loud and long-continued cheering.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD, the secretary, read the "Message of the Committee."

The Rev. J. J. GOADBY, of Leicester, then read a paper on "The Influence of Business on the Christian Life."

The Rev. R. MARTIN moved, and the Rev. THOS. DREW seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Goadby for his paper. After some remarks from Mr. VARLEY, of Nottingham, and Mr. DICKINSON, of Nottingham, the resolution was carried.

OPENING OF THE UNIVERSITIES TO DISSENTERS.

The question of opening the Universities to Dissenters was introduced by Mr. W. S. Aldis, M.A., of Trinity College, who, after apologising for not having had time to do justice to the subject, proceeded to give a short account of the tests that existed in the University and colleges. He argued that the University of Cambridge was a body empowered by charter to confer degrees upon the nation, and that, therefore, it was a national institution; notwithstanding which, though some points had been conceded, obstacles still existed. He described the difference between a subscriber to the Articles of the Church of England and a Nonconformist when the degree of M.A. was conferred. The one who declared himself a *bona fide* member of the Church of England was entitled to all the university privileges and emoluments, while the other had no voice in the matter except the privilege of recording a vote for a representative in Parliament. That, indeed, was one point conceded? In relation to the colleges they had points to fight for not conceded at all. Each college had a separate corporate existence, being governed by a Master and Fellows, the colleges being independent of each other. The University was much older than the colleges, as it had an existence before them, the colleges being erected as lodging places for students. The number of admission outgrew the accommodation, and so large was the number of applicants for University distinction, that now persons were admitted and allowed to be members of the University without belonging to any particular college—another concession which pointed to the national character of the University. Dwelling upon the condition of admission to colleges, he said that any person could become a student and receive the rewards, consisting of money, &c., provided such student obtained the highest place at the college examination. A residence in college, however, entailed upon the student the duty of attending chapel, where the Church of England service was read, and no person could become a Fellow of a college unless he

subscribed to the Articles of the Church of England; and at some colleges the retention of the fellowship was upon condition that holy orders were taken. Mr. Aldis said these restrictions deprived Dissenters not only of participation in the emoluments of the University, but also of any share in its government. The result of these obstacles was that the number of Nonconformists was small—about three in his (Mr. Aldis's) time, and now only between thirty and forty. While these restrictions existed it was not expected that Nonconformists would enter as students; were they removed the number would be very large. It was said by some who wished to keep the emoluments of the University exclusively to the Church of England that by admitting Dissenters and removing tests the door of infidelity would be opened, and, as a result, its influence would spread throughout the country. He believed, however, that those who thought so would be ready to accept a compromise. As a matter of justice, Nonconformists demanded the removal of religious tests, and he maintained that it would not be adverse to the wills of founders to remove these difficulties, which now were a barrier to the Dissenter. For the good of the nation they also demanded the abolition of tests, and on religious grounds, in particular, they made the same demand. Of course those who believed in wax candles and white surplices, had a dread of the removal of tests, but as he did not believe that religion consisted in such things, he was convinced that it would be better that no obstacle stood in the way of the spread of education and of Christianity. He referred to the measures of University Reform introduced and passed, and concluded by moving—

That in the opinion of this Union no settlement of the question of tests in the national Universities will be completed or permanent which does not include, in addition to the provisions of the bill introduced last session, the abolition of the necessity of taking orders as a condition of acquiring or holding any office or emolument in the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge and the colleges thereof respectively, and that this resolution be embodied in a memorial to Her Majesty's Government, and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Union.

Mr. NEVILLE GOODMAN, of St. Peter's College, seconded the resolution. He said that in removing these religious tests they would be removing one barrier to the inroad of scepticism. The resolution proposed went to make the Universities unsectarian; but if tests were abolished there was no reason why there should not be a theological school at Cambridge, and why it should not be as orthodox as any institution in Europe. The tests had not had the effect of excluding Bishop Colenso, nor did they drive away Essayists and Reviewers. He contended that the tests ought to be removed as early as possible; but a substantial injustice was done to the few Nonconforming students who did come up to this University while those tests existed, and at the close of his argument he urged the meeting, upon religious and political grounds, to use its influence to remove the obstacles that now existed to the admission of Dissenters to the Universities.

The CHAIRMAN was exceedingly glad for the sake of this question that the Union had come to Cambridge. He trusted that the delegates would go back to their respective homes, feeling a much greater interest in the question than before. When he came to Cambridge eighteen years ago he found only one person in his congregation who had been educated at the University. He had not only not been allowed to take his fellowship, but had not been allowed to take his degree. He had received a communication from that gentleman, Mr. Bumpus, but as the time was so very short, it would not be advisable to read it. He had been very much delighted to hear the speeches to which they had listened. He had seen some wonderful changes in the position of Nonconformists during the period that he had been at Cambridge.

The resolution was carried by acclamation, and the session terminated.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for his able address, on the motion of Dr. Brock, expressive of the hope that he would place it at the disposal of the Union for publication.

The delegates then proceeded to the Guildhall, where they dined.

In the afternoon, at half-past four o'clock, from eight to ten thousand persons assembled on Parker's Piece, where the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached a most eloquent and practical sermon, which was distinctly heard by that large concourse of persons.

In the evening there was to have been a *souree* at the Guildhall, but the numbers who crowded the building rendered this quite impracticable, and a portion were drafted off to St. Andrew-street Chapel, and platform meetings were held at both places. At the Guildhall the chairman of the Union presided, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Burns, of London; the Rev. — Wassall, of Bath; the Rev. C. Stovel, Dr. M. Foster, of Huntingdon; the Rev. J. T. Wigner, of New Cross, London; the Rev. — Fuller, from South Africa; and the Rev. M. Ward, of Bologna, Italy. The meeting at St. Andrew's-street Chapel was addressed by the Rev. G. Gould, chairman; the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, A. A. Reed, H. S. Brown, T. Lea, of Jamaica; W. Brock, D.D., and N. Haycroft, D.D. On Wednesday morning the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel preached a sermon at Zion Chapel at seven o'clock, selecting for his text John v. 24.

At the reassembling of the Conference on Thursday morning, after devotional exercises, the Rev. W. Brock, jun., read a paper on "Missing Links in our Church Life."

A vote of thanks to Mr. Brock was proposed by the Rev. J. M. Morris (Ipswich), seconded by the Rev. Jas. Murrell, of Bradford, and carried.

An offer made by the Rev. G. Gould, of Norwich, and the Rev. H. S. Brown, of Liverpool, and Mr. A. Brown, of Liverpool, of prizes for essays, for students at the several Baptist colleges, was declined in consequence of the conditions attached to it.

The Rev. S. GREEN made a statement relative to the Society for Aiding Ministers in obtaining a Suitable Education for their Sons and Daughters.

BAPTIST PASTORS' INCOME AUGMENTATION SOCIETY.

From the report of this society (a new one) presented to the Union, it appears that forty-seven churches which contribute not less than 10*l.* each, have united in this confederation of brotherly love and mutual helpfulness. Thirty other churches have contributed to the funds of the society, though they have failed to qualify as members. Only twenty of the forty-seven churches give their pastors less than 120*l.* a-year. In conformity with the rule agreed upon at Leicester last year, the committee have resolved that the money in hand, after paying the preliminary and the year's expenses, should be equally divided among the ministers of these twenty churches. This gives a dividend of 22*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per church. The total amount received thus far has been about 450*l.*

The Rev. Dr. Brock, of Bloomsbury Chapel, proposed the following resolution:—

That this session learns with satisfaction that a society has been established to all churches in providing an honourable maintenance for their pastors, and earnestly commends it to the confidence and liberal support of the denomination.

He explained the action of the fund, which was not applied to any church which gave its pastor less than 60*l.*, or more than 120*l.* a-year. He drew a vivid picture of the want and distresses of some of the poorer pastors of the churches, and made a powerful appeal to wealthy churches for their support.

G. ANSTET, Esq. (Devizes), seconded the resolution.

Dr. Hony explained the existence of a fund connected with the London Particular Baptist Society, out of which he thought this new fund could be supported.

The resolution was carried *nem. con.*

HOME AND IRISH MISSIONS.

The SECRETARY of this society reported progress, and said that since the last autumnal meeting of the Baptist Union, there had been an addition of sixteen labourers to those who were previously in connection with the society. Its functions were not pastoral but evangelical. They do not exist to augment the small incomes of pastors, but to assist in doing missionary work outside the churches—in strengthening the denomination where it was weakest, and in creating a sentiment in its favour in those places where it had no existence. It was quite true they did sometimes render assistance to pastors, but it was in consideration of work done beyond their own recognised sphere of labour. Having recently visited Ireland, he could bear testimony to the spirit of hearing and the desire for Christian teaching which prevailed, also to the unsurpassed activity of their missionary brethren, and the spiritual results of their labours. During three weeks, he held more than twenty public services, all of which, with two or three exceptions, were well attended.

The Rev. C. H. SPURGEON referred to touching terms of the duty of Englishmen towards Ireland, and said the centuries of wrong that had been inflicted on that unhappy country could not be atoned for but by a continued beneficent policy towards the people of Ireland. He drew a most graphic picture of the ignorance and superstition existing in some villages, and urged the great necessity that existed for village work to be looked after. The London Churches derived a great deal of strength from the young people who had been trained in country churches, and the society rendered assistance to pastors of churches who would undertake missionary work in their vicinity. He strongly urged the Baptists of Cambridgeshire to at once form a county association. Young ministers would find it much better to establish churches of their own when they started in the ministry, rather than looking out for some comfortable church, where comparisons were inevitable, and in many cases injurious to the young man's interests. He was not so well versed in prophecy as their Chairman, but he felt that a great and good day was coming for the world.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

The Rev. J. T. BROWN, of Northampton, moved the following resolutions:—

That this Union, having regard to the manner in which all questions affecting the principles of religious equality in this country were treated during the last session of Parliament, resolves:—

1. That this Union tenders its grateful thanks to Henry Richard, Esq., and to those members of Parliament who supported his motion on the Elementary Education Bill; to Watkin Williams, Esq., and to those members of Parliament who supported his motion for the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Episcopal Church in Wales; and to Edward Miall, Esq., for his proposed motion on the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Episcopal Church in England and Wales in the next session of Parliament.

2. That the Union regards with deep regret the increased facilities afforded, during the past session, to sectarian education at the public expense, and strongly protests against the continuance of this anti-national system in the country, and its introduction into Ireland.

3. That this Union records its satisfaction at the prospect of a discussion in Parliament of the question of the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Episcopal Church in England and Wales, and expresses the confident hope that Mr. Miall's motion will receive the hearty support of all the friends of religious equality.

4. That this Union asks Her Majesty's Government to extend to the whole of the United Kingdom the same measure of religious justice which they so happily conferred upon Ireland in 1862, and the principle of which has been adopted by nearly all the dependencies of Great Britain.

5. That this Union calls upon all Nonconformists energetically to support these candidates for Parliament who will pledge themselves to sustain the principles of religious equality.

He said he was quite sure that such resolutions would meet with a hearty reception at a meeting of Baptists—a denomination that had ever been foremost in the advocacy and maintenance of liberty in its widest and purest form—and especially at a meeting in Cambridge which was associated with so many names of hallowed memory:—Robert Robinson, the earliest minister remembered in that chapel; William Robinson, its latest minister; and Mr. Edmunds, a man everywhere revered and loved. At such a meeting and at such a place it was needless to enlarge upon resolutions in favour of religious liberty. He desired simply to remind his Nonconformist brethren that there would be required from them in the coming controversies a much more intelligent grasp of the certainty of their principles than they had ever had, a profounder conviction of their importance as identified with the interests of mankind, and the interests of religion, together with a bolder policy than they were at present pursuing. Their voice should give forth no uncertain sound, but should be distinctly heard by the country, the House of Commons, and by the Prime Minister himself, as an expression of their determination to maintain, without faltering, and in every Christian way, the integrity of their principles. (Hear, hear.) How had they been treated during the last session? Look at the Education question, the question of University Tests, and the Burials Bill. Look at any ecclesiastical question, and see the way in which they had been treated. Even an enlightened man like Mr. Gladstone had charged them with being anti-national. The truth was that in all matters connected with education and religion, they desired no favour themselves, and at the same time they were unwilling that others should be favoured. When Mr. Watkin Williams made his noble speech, in bringing forward his motion for the Disendowment and Disestablishment of the Church in Wales, Nonconformists were absolutely laughed at, and the proposed application of their views was regarded as Utopian. But there must be no compromises. He believed in charity most thoroughly. He would embrace every one, and deal fairly towards his most bitter opponent, putting the most generous construction upon his motives. But it should be remembered that the Lord Jesus, as well as being the gentlest being on earth, was the boldest, and farther from nothing than from shifting policies and poor expediences. (Hear, hear.) He not only spoke the truth, but was the truth: and he (Mr. Brown) desired to sit at the feet of his Master. (Applause.)

The Rev. JAMES WYBB, in seconding the resolution, said it was sometimes contended that Christian people should let political matters alone, or if they touched them, handle them as if they shrank from the contact. He had no belief in that doctrine—(Hear, hear)—and he thought there were but few present who held it. Because God, in His grace, had made them Christians, were they to forget that He had also made them Englishmen? They were bound to bring their religion to bear upon the full discharge of their political duties, and not put aside that which concerned them as citizens of the commonwealth, because God had elevated their moral and spiritual position. Let the higher things be brought to bear upon the lower, and the latter would be sanctified thereby. The hearty thanks of the Union were due to the men who, when many others shrank from the manly avowal of their principles, boldly came forward in their defence. (Applause.) If there had been more men of the same stamp in the front ranks, the country would not had at the present time so worthless an Education Bill as that which had received the sanction of Parliament. The defects in that bill were great and glaring. It was lamentable to think that by the capricious vote of a vestry, the national money might be devoted to the inculcation of every one of Christian doctrine, and, indeed, every doctrine not Christian. If the bill should ever come into operation in the town in which he lived, he solemnly declared that he would never pay the rate. He would rather, a hundred times, pay a church-rate than contribute to the maintenance of a school which might inoculate young minds with the most pernicious principles and contribute to their everlasting disadvantage. He trusted, not only in the vote which they there to give, but in the line of conduct they had to pursue, they would show an undivided front, and their principle should be that of "No compromise," which simply meant "No knavery." (Applause.)

After a few remarks from Messrs. Peppercorn, Brown, and Strange, the resolution was carried.

CONTINENTAL CHURCHES.

The Rev. CHARLES STOVEL read the following resolution:—

That the members of this Union regard with deep sympathy the sufferings of their co-religionists on the continent on account of their religious faith, and render thanks to God for the steadfastness they have manifested in seasons of difficulty, and for the large measure of success with which God has honoured their labours. That they especially sympathise with them under the increased impediments to their work, and the personal and domestic trials which have necessarily fallen upon them, in common with all their countrymen, in consequence of the present disastrous war; and devoutly pray that, as the result, new facilities may be found for the promotion of Christ's spiritual kingdom, which, in proportion as it extends its blessed influence among the nations, will lay the only secure foundation of universal and enduring peace.

Mr. Stovel said he attributed, in a great measure, the present war and the Thirty Years' War to the unfaithfulness with which the truths they held, and those who maintained them, were persecuted by the German Protestant Reformers. Had Luther been faithful to his principles, there had been, he believed, no occasion for the present fearful conflict.

A very gratifying letter was read from the Rev. J. G. Oncken, of Hamburg, who stated that they had now in Germany upwards of a hundred churches

and 50,000 baptized members, and that the most interesting and promising connections were opening in Austria, Hungary, Poland, Russia, the Danubian Principalities, and even in Turkey, where they had, by the blessing of God, been able to form two churches.

Dr. HARTHOFF said that a memorial had been forwarded to the Union by the United Kingdom Alliance, and it had been considered by the sub-committee, and he proposed the following resolution:—

That the members of this Union in common assembled, whilst deeply lamenting the terrible evils resulting from intemperance, desire to express their profound conviction that the chief agencies for securing the much-needed reformation must be found in the spread of education, in moral suasion, and in the growing influence of Christian truth. At the same time they are convinced that the present licensing system needs to be thoroughly reformed, and they trust that the promised measure of Her Majesty's Government will be of a most comprehensive and effective character.

The Rev. D. WASSALL, of Bath, seconded the resolution, which was carried with only one dissentient.

The following resolution was unanimously carried on the motion of Dr. BROCK, seconded by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON:—

That the hearty thanks of the Baptist Union be presented to the various committees at Cambridge, who have, with great labour, prepared for the various meetings and the accommodation of the delegates. Nor can it fail to record gratefully the kindness of gentlemen of the University for throwing open its treasures to the inspection of the delegates; and, further, to the masters and members of various colleges, and to Christians of all denominations in the town, for the generous hospitality shown to the members of the Union.

The business of the Union then terminated.

A public meeting was held in the evening, at the Guildhall, and was very numerously attended; indeed, large numbers were unable to obtain admission. The chair was taken by Mr. Bonham, of London. The Rev. HUGH STOWELL BROWN addressed the meeting, taking as his topic, "The Gospel the Poor Man's Friend." The Rev. A. A. RASS, of Sunderland, selected for the subject of his address Paul's exhortation to Timothy, "Take heed to thyself, and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for, so doing, thou shalt save thyself and them that hear thee." The Rev. T. W. MARSHALL, of Boston, spoke on the subject of the former persecutions of Baptists on the continent. The Rev. C. H. SPURGEON addressed some words of counsel to young ministers.

I recommend, said he, every young minister to make his pulpit his first business. The pulpit is the Thermopylae of Christendom. Your people may grumble that you don't go about and drink as many cups of tea at their houses as they would like. If you give them good food on the Sabbath they will put up with a great deal. If the Sabbath joint is only a grim scrag of mutton, with plenty of divisions and nothing to divide—(laughter)—you will soon discover, whatever else you may do, that your people will not be satisfied. In the next place, do not neglect visitation. It is true that I cannot visit my 4,350 members; if I were endowed with as many heads as a hydra, and bodies also multiplied, I could not do it. But my visitation is done by the elders. One young pastor lately said to me, "I have no time to visit." "Goodness gracious!" said I, "what have got to do?" "I have got my sermons to get up." "Your sermons! Well, I suppose you are never in bed after six in the morning. From six to nine you have three hours: Six times three are eighteen—that is, two clear days in the week, of nine hours each. That ought to be enough for your sermons—all before breakfast"—(laughter). Now, I do not say that everybody must get up so early in the morning, but I say that we must make long days. A Puritan once got up at five o'clock and went into his study, and hearing a blacksmith's hammer going, fell upon his knees and said, "O God, have mercy upon me. Does this man get up to serve his master before I rise to serve mine?" Our days are so few that we must make them long ones, and take time by the forelock. I believe we are losing influence largely by neglecting visitation. Where there is a population of five hundred in a town or village, no minister ought to rest satisfied until he has spoken to every accessible man about his soul. Next, let me say a word or two to the people. It is a remarkable fact that ministers of the Gospel are not able to live on much less than other people. (Laughter.) They cannot make a shilling go as far as other people can make a sovereign. Some of them try very hard, but they do not succeed. Will our churches see to the better maintenance of our ministers? Said a member once to a minister who wanted a little more salary as his family increased, "I did not know that you preached for money." "No, I don't," said the minister. "I thought you preached for souls." "So I do, but I could not live on souls"—(laughter)—and if I could it would take a good many the size of yours to make a meal." (Renewed laughter.) Feed your ministers if you expect them to feed you.

The speaker then gave some advice to deacons, and made a few pungent remarks on the ordinary run of prayer-meetings. He recommended all who had house-room to spare to employ it for classes and other similar purposes, and he exhorted his hearers to "get out of old ruts," and employ every available means for the accomplishment of their Christian enterprise.

The Rev. W. ROBINSON proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was briefly acknowledged, and the meeting was brought to a close by singing and prayer.

A public meeting was simultaneously held in St. Andrew's Chapel, which was nearly filled; the speakers being the Rev. C. Williams (Accrington), Rev. D. Price (Aberdare), Rev. G. Gould (Norwich), Rev. C. Stovel, and Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.

The Rev. Charles Birrell, of Liverpool, is appointed chairman for next year.

The Rev. J. Short, M.A., minister of Townhead-street Baptist Chapel, Sheffield, and the Rev. T. Austin, of Howard-street Independent Chapel, in the same town, have resigned their respective pastorates.

The Rev. Mr. Bartlett, of Worcester, has accepted an invitation to become the pastor of the church and congregation at Park Congregational Church, Halifax.

THE REV. G. W. CONDER.—We understand that the Rev. G. W. Conder has resigned his charge at Cheetham Hill, and is about to remove to the neighbourhood of London. Mr. Conder is subject to a malady of the throat, which so seriously impedes his work, during the winter months, as to have made him desirous of occupying himself mainly in literary pursuits for the future. He has, however, accepted the unanimous invitation of the committee of the Queen's-road Chapel, Forest Hill, to supply the pulpit of that place for twelve months, and intends to commence his labours there at the end of next month at the beginning of November.—*Manchester Examiner*.

OPEN-AIR MISSION.—On Monday evening, upwards of 100 members and friends of the Open-Air Mission assembled at the monthly conference in the Hall, Red Lion-square, where an able address on "Christian Evidences; their nature, extent, and mode of treatment," was delivered by Mr. B. H. COWPER, author of "Popular Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity." Major-General Burrows, Hon. Sec. of the Christian Evidences Society, who occupied the chair, urged the importance of a close acquaintance with Christian evidences in a free-thinking age like the present. The Secretary, C. ROE, the Rev. C. J. WHITMORE, and others, took part in the conversation, and at the close of the meeting, about a dozen of the preachers, led by the secretary, went out to hold short services in the neighbouring streets.

THE LATE JUDGE PIOT, OF JERSEY.—The island of Jersey has been thrown into deep mourning by the death of one of its magistrates, Philip Piot, Esq., Jurat of the Royal Court, who departed this life, Saturday, Sept. 24th, 1870, aged eighty. To the Congregational churches of that island, this loss is a very heavy one. The late Judge Piot had for long years faithfully discharged the office of deacon in the French Independent Church at St. John's, of which the Rev. P. BINET, B.A., is now pastor. But this bereavement is not felt by the Congregational body alone, the large-hearted Christian benevolence of the deceased magistrate had endeared him to every other denomination of Christians. The ministers who have come to Jersey on deputations from the Bible and London Missionary Societies can all testify to the warm welcome he gave them, to the warm interest he always evinced in the cause they came to advocate.—*From a Correspondent*.

OPEN-AIR PREACHING.—For twelve or thirteen years an open-air service has been held at the Royal Exchange every Sunday afternoon during the summer, by permission of the Lord Mayor and the Gresham Committee. The closing meeting of the season was held on Sunday last, and was superintended by Mr. G. KIRKHAM, secretary of the Open-Air Mission. The weather was remarkably fine, and the attendance large. The meeting lasted for two hours, during which addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. GRIGBY, Rev. W. LE PLU, Rev. Dr. HEWLETT, Rev. G. W. MCCREE, Mr. Thomas Walker, and Mr. Robert Craig. Additional interest was given to the meeting by the presence of Mr. W. J. ORAM's Golden-lane Bible-classes, who sang some of Philip Phillips' American hymns very effectively. A collection, amounting to 11. 10s. was made on behalf of the sick and wounded in the war. Another meeting was held on Olerkenwell Green from three till nine o'clock, when a collection was also made for the sick and wounded, amounting to 5s. 6d.

AUGMENTATION OF MINISTERIAL STIPENDS.—A conference of delegates from nearly all the County Associations in England, with representatives of the Home Missionary Society, Coward's Trust, and other similar funds, spent the whole of Tuesday in debating the well-worn subject of ministerial income. The meeting, which had been constituted and convened in conformity with a resolution passed at the last autumnal session of the Congregational Union, was held in the rooms of the Sunday School Union. Some seventy ministers and gentlemen were present, and the Rev. James Gwyther, of Manchester, was invited to preside. The secretary of the Union, Mr. HANNAY, prepared the way for discussion by reading a paper of statistics, carefully gathered from a great number of churches, showing the present pecuniary position of Congregational ministers, the funds from which they are at present assisted, the methods adopted by other denominations, and the various schemes which had been proposed for remedying our own deficiencies. The question in all its bearings was then carefully considered, looked at from all sides, and thoroughly argued for six hours. No subject was ever discussed with more calmness, or more real anxiety to arrive at a just and beneficial decision. The result was that the Conference, with almost unbroken unanimity (the dissentients were not more than half a dozen), passed resolutions declaring that a fund ought to be formed for the purpose of increasing the salaries of poor but worthy Congregational ministers; and that the object to be aimed at should be to make 150l. the minimum of ministerial salary amongst us. The Conference further resolved that the formation and administration of such a fund might be safely lodged in the hands of a body of delegates from all the country unions, and they remitted their resolutions to the committee of the Congregational Union, to obtain the judgment of the Union itself, and to take further steps in the matter.—*English Independent*.

"Lothair" has produced so great a sensation in Russia, that "in Petersburg the booksellers cannot manage to order a sufficient number of copies."

Correspondence.

MINISTERIAL SETTLEMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—We have lately heard much of theories of development, and certainly some very startling developments are taking place in the views and projects of some portions of the Congregational body.

In support of this statement, I would refer your readers to the resolutions passed at a recent meeting of the Congregational Board. The second of these enacts that, "previous to the public service, at which the ordination or recognition of a pastor takes place, a conference of local ministers, and (if practicable), of delegates or officers of neighbouring churches, should be held; at which the incoming pastor should offer those explanations, and afford that information, respecting his personal character, his views of Christian truth, and the circumstances of his settlement, which, if satisfactory, would enable them to give him an intelligent welcome. And that this Conference should be held before the arrangements for the public service are completed." Further, by resolution third, "the members of this Board resolve to act upon it—i.e., 'such an arrangement' in the future, as far as practicable in their respective localities. They would also express the earnest hope that brethren from a distance will take no part in any pastoral settlement, until they have received evidence that such a local conference has been held, or that, in some other suitable way, satisfaction has been given to the neighbouring pastors and churches, and that the settlement has their approval."

It is said that we are but returning to the godly practice of our ancestors, but the assertion will not prevent thoughtful men from asking, where is the wisdom of such an arrangement? A matter of the gravest importance is to be determined, the relation of any given minister, involving also the relation of the church which appoints him to all other Congregational ministers and churches; and the decision is made to rest with "a conference of local ministers and (if practicable), of delegates or officers of neighbouring churches." It may be granted that such persons may be trusted to investigate character, but why they should be deemed unexceptionable judges as to views of Christian truth, is not so evident. We have no guarantee whatever as to their learning or orthodoxy, or competency of any kind. They may not have had the advantage of a college training. They may be totally unacquainted with the religious thought of the age, or with the controversies of the past. They may be broad or narrow, candid or prejudiced. It matters not—the simple circumstance of neighbourhood constitutes them judges without appeal (no provision whatever is made for appeal). If they are not satisfied, the unfortunate minister can have no recognition. "Brethren from a distance" must make no independent investigation. They must trust the judgment of the local conference. It is settled that the man does not hold right views of Christian truth. Now, Sir, while ready to admit that laudable objects are aimed at by the framers of the resolutions, I doubt, very much, the wisdom of the means which they adopt. Is it such a very easy thing to decide as to essential Christian truth? Are the several branches of the church of Christ agreed upon the subject? Are we agreed amongst ourselves? Do the controversial storms which rage around awake no ripples on the placid surface of Congregational church life? Does the right of free discussion, which is our boast, result in a tame uniformity? Is it not notorious that the various leading lines of theological thought are to be traced amongst ourselves, as well as in other denominations? On what principles, then, are the members of this local conference to act? Is there no danger that amidst the conflict of opinions and parties, they may be perplexed, timid, and irresolute? or, if not, arbitrary, arrogant, and overbearing? What is to be the standard of Christian truth? Whose views are to be accepted? Is Calvinism essential,—the Calvinism of many of our trust-deeds, or of "the Declaration of Faith and Order"? If so, it is certain that some of our leading men would not pass muster. Would the views of Mr. Edward White on future retribution be received? It is notorious that many of our most thoughtful ministers and laymen sympathise with him, or diverge as widely from the old standard in other directions. The late Dr. Campbell was supposed to have a large following, at least in the rural districts. What would have been their decision as to the views of the author of the "Rivulet"? It is to be feared that a local conference would have made short work with him, and so a name esteemed by many amongst the most illustrious, must have remained unrecognised.

It may be said that, after all, we have a standard of Christian truth, embracing things which are most surely believed amongst us, and which constitute our very life. Granted, cordially granted. But if that standard is to be applied, and if ministers and churches are to be judged by it, let it be clearly and honestly defined. Let the Congregational body declare what is the standard of Christian truth according to Congregationalists. Let the grave and learned and pious men about to assemble at Plymouth discuss the question. Let them not, following the weak example of the Government in the Education Bill, remit the matter to local boards.

Some may think that after all the question of minis-

terial recognition is of no great practical importance; that no great harm is inflicted if a man is not recognised. But it is not so. It is no light thing for a minister or church to be cut off from general communion. And it appears likely that certain grave practical consequences will follow. It has been decided by a recent conference that every effort shall be made to raise the stipend of all Congregational ministers to a minimum of 150*l*. Previous recognition is of course essential, and the prospects of each pastor will therefore depend on the decisions of a local board. "In future (writes the *English Independent*), we would disown all churches, and so-called ministers, who do not fully and satisfactorily comply with our conditions of ordination."

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

VIGILANS.

DE FOE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In speaking on De Foe at Bunhill Fields, Mr. Reed, according to your report, asserted that De Foe had quoted the lines beginning, "Stone walls do not a prison make" as John Bunyan's. I should be much obliged to him, or to any of your readers, if he or they would inform me where De Foe makes that statement. He is usually exceedingly accurate in his references. The lines are by Richard Lovelace, the Royalist, who was imprisoned in 1643. He wrote them during his captivity in the Gatehouse of Westminster. They are dedicated, "To Althea, from prison." They begin, "When love with unconfin'd wings." Perhaps your readers would like to see the whole verse, of which Mr. Reed quoted two lines. It runs thus:—

"Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds, innocent and quiet, take
That for an hermitage.
If I have freedom in my love,
And in my soul am free,
Angels alone, that soar above,
Enjoy such liberty."

Yours truly,

THOMAS GREEN.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Sept. 22.

A WHITFIELD SCHOLARSHIP.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Next Friday is the centenary of George Whitfield's death. It would be a pleasant way of perpetuating his memory if some wealthy friend of Evangelical effort would institute a scholarship at one or more of our colleges to bear the honoured name of the great field preacher and philanthropist. I can only give the hint: it is not in my power to bestow the gift, or it would be willingly and promptly done.

Yours, &c.,

EVANGELIST.

Walworth, S.E., Sept. 9, 1870.

REPRESENTATION OF SHREWSBURY.

One of the most severe contests that ever occurred for this borough was brought to a conclusion on Wednesday evening by the return of Mr. Douglas Straight, the Conservative, by a majority of 38 votes over his opponent, Mr. Cotes, Liberal. The struggle was hotly maintained throughout the whole day, the probable result being very dubious up to the last moment. In the morning part the Liberals were considerably ahead, but by slow degrees their majority was converted into a minority, and at the close the Mayor returned the following as the numbers polled:—Douglas Straight, 1,291; Cotes, 1,253. The return of Mr. Straight adds one to the Conservative ranks, his predecessor, Mr. Clement, having been always a staunch Liberal.

Mr. T. Collings, of Gloucester, writes to the *Daily News*:—"The prediction of Messrs. Miall and Richard has received its first fulfilment in the defeat of Mr. Cotes at Shrewsbury. Dissenters who at the last general election were unanimous in their enthusiasm, are now divided even in their allegiance; and it requires no great foresight to perceive that if the principles of the present Education Bill are extended to Ireland, disaster to the Liberal cause will result. Nonconformists of this day can hardly be expected willingly to sacrifice cherished principles for the sake of a party which at the best refuses to them the consideration which it bestows upon a minority of its supporters. Without referring at length to the recent debates, it may be safely affirmed that the alienation of a considerable section of Dissenters dated from the division upon the amendment of Mr. Jacob Bright. By the course the Government then pursued, they have been credited (with some show of reason) with a greater willingness to conciliate their foes than to meet the just demands of their friends. By the aid of Tory votes it is not impossible that a sectarian system of education for Ireland may be passed next session. Should it be so, Mr. Gladstone will find a large moiety of his party responsive to his own challenge, and for 'God's sake' they will withhold their support, choosing rather to fight with open foes than with professed friends. It is not too late, however, to avert this, and none will be more grateful than Nonconformists if the bill upon Irish education be such as shall claim the support of the whole Liberal party."

THE WAR.

FAILURE OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The negotiations between Count Bismark and M. Jules Favre took place at Ferrières, the splendid seat of Baron Alphonse Rothschild, a few miles from Paris, on the 19th and 20th. On the 22nd the French Minister of Foreign Affairs left for Paris, with the following conditions for an armistice to be granted for the convocation of the Constituent Assembly:—The surrender of Toul, Verdun, and Strasbourg, with the view of securing an uninterrupted line of communication for provisioning the German armies during the suspension of hostilities. These conditions were rejected by the French Government on the 23rd. The Local Government of the National Defence at Tours issued the following proclamation to France:—

TOURS, Sept. 24.

Before the investment of Paris M. Jules Favre wished to have an interview with Count Bismark, in order to ascertain the dispositions of Prussia. The following is the declaration of the enemy:—Prussia desires to continue the war, so as to reduce France to the rank of a second-rate Power. Prussia wants Alsace, and Lorraine as far as Metz, by right of conquest, and, to consent to an armistice, she dares to ask the surrender of Strasbourg, Toul, and Mont Valérien. The inhabitants of Paris, in their exasperation, would rather bury themselves in the ruins of their city than accept such terms. To such impudent pretensions we can only reply by fighting to the bitter end. France accepts the contest, and relies upon all her children.

The following additional note was issued:—

TOURS, Sept. 24, 1870.

The members delegates of the Government, Crémieux, Glais-Bizoin, Fourichon.—In consequence of the above proclamation, which constitutes a crisis in the life of the nation, the Government decrees—

First—That all the municipal elections and those for the Constituent Assembly be suspended and adjourned.

Second—All municipal elections which have been made are annulled.

Third—The Prefects will be provided by the maintenance of existing municipalities, or by the nomination of provisional municipalities.

The members delegates of the Government, CRÉMIEUX, GLAIS-BIZOIN.

The Government at Paris has also issued a note agreeing with the above proclamation of the local Government of Tours, and constituting Europe judge of the attitude of Prussia. This note says:—

We have wished to stop this barbarous conflict, which is decimating two nations to the profit of a few ambitious men. We accept equitable conditions, but we will not cede an inch of territory or a stone of our fortresses.

A German despatch gives a categorical denial to the statement that Count Bismark demanded the surrender of either Metz or Mont Valérien, and adds:—

Toul, Verdun, and Strasbourg were alone demanded. The outworks of the latter fortress being already in the possession of the German troops, and a breach having been opened, its fall was considered as a mere question of days. Toul has since surrendered. Verdun is of no military importance, but would, during a suspension of hostilities, have been necessary for provisioning the German troops before Paris by direct communication with Germany. The Chancellor thinks, therefore, those conditions to have been more than moderate in comparison with the great advantages France would have derived from an armistice, both for her political organisation and for her new armaments.

It is said by the *Official Gazette* of Berlin that Russia recognises these terms as reasonable and justified.

Authentic advices from Vienna report the complete failure of M. Thiers' mission. In his interview with Count Beust, M. Thiers declared that the object of his mission was to awaken the interest of the neutral Powers in the present condition of France, with a view to their obtaining favourable terms of peace by pressure upon Germany. Count Beust replied that Austria, with the best wishes for the interests of France, was not now, nor had been since the beginning of the war, in a condition to take any active steps in existing circumstances. M. Thiers retired disappointed. He was not invited to the great dinner given by Count Beust to the Diplomatic Corps, at which Count Schweinitz, the Minister of the North German Confederation, was present. M. Thiers left for St. Petersburg to gain Russian assistance in return for concessions in the East. He will probably return to Vienna to report the reception of his overtures.

THE GERMAN TERMS OF PEACE.

Count Bismark has sent two circular despatches to the representatives of the North German Confederation abroad.

The first is dated Rheims, the 13th of September, and points out the necessity of obtaining better securities than goodwill as guarantees against another French attack—namely, material securities. Count Bismark continues thus:—"We can only draw up our terms of peace with the aim of putting obstacles in the way of a French attack upon the German, and especially the hitherto unprotected South German, frontier, in such a manner that we push far back those frontiers, and therewith the starting point of an attack from France, and that we bring into the power of Germany, as a bulwark, those fortresses with which France has threatened us."

The second circular note is dated Meaux, the 16th of September, and examines the circular note of M.

Jules Favre. Count Bismark dwells upon the fact that Germany had no desire to mix herself up in the internal affairs of France. "What Government France should select is indifferent to Germany. The Government of the Emperor Napoleon is at present the only formally recognised one, and our conditions of peace are dependent upon it. As long as Strasbourg and Metz remain to France, her powers of offence are stronger than ours of defence. In the possession of Germany Strasbourg and Metz would gain a defensive character. Germany has never been the assailant. France will regard every peace now concluded only as an armistice, and revenge herself for her present defeat so soon as she feels herself strong enough so to do. No disturbance of the peace of Europe is to be feared from Germany, since war was forced upon us, and we shall regard our future safety as the price of our present exertions."

"An Englishman at Head-quarters," writing from Meaux on the 17th, sends to the *Telegraph* the following summary of a conversation between Count Bismark and Mr. Malet, the Second Secretary of the Legation in Paris, who came on a mission from Lord Lyons:—"Mr. Malet came to ask on what terms the German Government would consent to make peace, and also whether it would enter into any direct communication with M. Jules Favre. I have no doubt you know of the general tenor of the French terms—their offer of indemnity, half the navy and so forth, with a decided hint that they would rather not give up an acre of French soil. The Count answered in a friendly tone, but very summarily and decidedly. 'We do not want money,' he said; 'we are rich, and we do not care about large indemnities. We do not want ships, Germany not being at present a naval power, or having any especial naval objects in view. But we know very well that we shall leave behind us in France an undying legacy of hate; and that, happen what may just now, France will at once go into training; for that reason she looks forward to a day when, without an Emperor to keep her in check, and without the effete feebleness and wastefulness which the Imperial régime has brought upon her, she may wreak vengeance upon Germany. Accordingly, what we now insist upon is, that we shall have Metz and Strasbourg. We do not care to have them dismantled, but as they are; and as they are we shall keep them for a bulwark against French invasion, making them stronger than ever they were. We do not want ships, but Metz and Strasbourg we must have. As for knocking our heads against Paris, we won't do it. That is not our plan. We have seventy thousand cavalry, and we will starve Paris out, cutting her railroads, and cutting off all communication.' All this is clear enough; but in some respects the most important and instructive portion of the Count's remarks came towards the end of the conversation. He assumed that Prussia would gain all her objects, treating the acquisition of Metz and Strasbourg as a *fait accompli*. 'But,' he added, 'what I most fear is the effect of a Republic in France upon Germany itself. This is what the King and I most fear; for no one knows so well as we do what has been the influence of American Republicanism on Germany.' Here the Count evidently alluded, not only to the theoretical tendencies of the Germans, but to the effect of communications from those of the Fatherland who colonised the United States, and become thus naturalised to Republicanism. 'If,' he continued, speaking of the French, 'they fight us with a propagandist Republic, they will do us far more harm than they can do us by force of arms.'

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

On Monday week, the 19th, the German corps advanced simultaneously and completely invested Paris. The advance of the Crown Prince was, however, disputed. The King, in a telegram to Queen Augusta, dated the 20th, says:—

"Yesterday afternoon our Fifth Corps and the Second Bavarian Corps, after crossing the Seine at Villeneuve St. George, south of Paris, attacked three divisions of General Vinoy on the heights of Sceaux, and repulsed them, taking seven guns and many prisoners. My 7th regiment again had a good many dead and wounded. Fritz was present. The weather was excellent all last week."

The French troops consisted of three divisions. They were not commanded by General Vinoy, but were under General Ducrot, the officer who commanded the First Army Corps at Sedan, and who subsequently escaped from the Germans in the garb of a peasant. They lost from 2,000 to 3,000 prisoners. The Zouaves fled at the first onset of the enemy, as also did the 16th and 27th Regiments of the Line. The Garde Mobile stood firm and fought well. The whole body returned within the fortifications, the Zouaves being received with execrations. General Trochu has ordered energetic and rigorous measures to be adopted towards the undisciplined and demoralised soldiers who fled, and subjects them to the consequences of military law.

This engagement on the heights of Sceaux seems to illustrate the carelessness of the French. The same ineptitude which has marked nearly all the battles of the campaign was again displayed in this. Although a pretence of reconnoitring was made, the French troops were led against an enemy whose strength and position were alike unknown, and the consequences were what might have been expected. When the French troops had been sent into the wood they found themselves exposed almost at point-blank range to a murderous fire. Those corps which had not entered the wood were massed on a plateau under guns which the Germans had planted on the

heights above, and mown down with shot and shell until they could bear it no longer, when they fled in utter confusion. At Tours the people were encouraged to believe that the battle of the 19th was a great French victory. In the official account of this battle, published by M. Gambetta, the expression occurs, "Orders have been given for the troops to concentrate definitively in Paris." This sentence implies that the intention of General Trochu was not to repeat expeditions like those of the 19th, but to reserve the strength of the garrison for sorties to be made under the protection of the forts.

The *Official Gazette* of Berlin says that the southern portion of Paris is commanded by the Prussian guns on the heights of Sceaux, therefore General Ducrot's defence in that quarter, after his defeat near the forts of Charanton and Bicêtre, cannot be very protracted. St. Denis cannot be attacked without a regular siege, and will probably be left alone. Vincennes seems to be abandoned and undermined, the defences consisting only of masonry, and being commanded by the neighbouring hills. Two thousand Gardes Mobiles were captured at Versailles. Serres, which asked for a German garrison, was occupied.

According to the reports furnished from Berlin, where they are authorised by the War Office, now that Paris is absolutely isolated, and all avenues of egress and access closed, the military measures of the Germans are regarded as completed until further orders. A despatch from Ferrières on Monday says:—"Every preparation is being made for a prolonged stay at the Royal Head-quarters in this place. Three telegraph lines have been erected here to keep up communication between the German armies." A letter from Berlin says:—"The investment goes on slowly, but without a step to undo. Six regiments of siege artillery of 72 guns each are hastening here from the Rhine. Sheltered by the vast and widespread net of restless Uhlans and active Dragoons, the German Engineers are completing their reconnaissances and maturing the plans of attack. Already the points to be first seized are said to be determined. Of course, I may not even hint at them. No one in this army believes that Paris will resist long after three contiguous forts have fallen." It is expected that the attack will be made on the southern side. The Crown Prince is installed at Versailles, on the south-west; and the headquarters of the Crown Prince of Saxony are at Tremblay, about ten miles to the north-east of Paris. There are, seven corps before Paris, of which the 12th Saxon is exceptionally strong—about 40,000 men, making a total of about 250,000 men, with, perhaps, 50,000 reserve coming up in rear.

The following despatch from Lille, said to have received by a carrier pigeon, has been published by the Government at Tours:—

Yesterday, the 23rd, General Mandly's division attacked the heights of the plateau of Villejuif, which were occupied by the Prussians. The fighting commenced at three a.m., and after a well-sustained fire, lasting several hours, our field batteries, supported by the fire from the forts, completely carried the redoubt and the Sagne mill of Villejuif, as well as the redoubt of the Haute Bruyère. They maintained the conquered positions, and still occupy them. The enemy suffered considerably. The Garde Mobile behaved well. On the same day Rear-Admiral Saisset effected a brilliant reconnaissance on the side of Bouget; at the head of 200 fusiliers, 400 marina infantry, and 8 companies of light cavalry of the Seine he quickly dislodged the enemy from the village of Oroney.

On the same day again General Billon ordered an attack on the village of Pierrefitte, and the enemy, though in considerable force, was driven out after rather a sharp fight, our troops effecting their return to St. Denis without being disturbed by the enemy.

The *Manchester Guardian* contains the following telegram from its correspondent at Tours, dated Sunday evening:—

I have just seen the man who arrived from Paris in a balloon yesterday. He left on Friday, the 23rd, and was fired at in the air by Prussian artillery and musketry till he had passed over Mantes. He noticed fighting going on in the direction of Mont Valérien, and states that he could see distinctly that the German army was there formed of seven columns, and was flanked by a quantity of cavalry. On alighting he was received by the Prefect of the Department of the Eure. He brought with him no less than three sacks of despatches, and the news contained in them was to the following effect:—

"The conditions stipulated by Count Bismark had been placarded over Paris, and had excited the most patriotic indignation."

"The cannon of Mont Valérien had dislodged the enemy from the redoubt which they had taken about St. Cloud. Paris has a most resolute and martial appearance. Day and night heavy cannonading is heard. No inhabitants are allowed to leave their houses after ten p.m." M. Jules Darouf, my informant, is preparing to return to Paris by the same means.

To-day's *Constitutionnel* has the following intelligence by a small balloon:—"Paris is completely surrounded, and the post is carried in by balloon. We shall send one every week. The Mobiles show very fine form, and if the Administration could organise an army to cause a diversion our success would be enormous. No serious engagement."

The Brussels correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"Some persons who succeeded in leaving Paris on Friday last, and who have arrived here, explain the Prussian official telegram concerning the firing in Paris by stating that the Zouaves of General Vinoy's army, who were the first to give way, were received in Paris with gun and cannon shots. Frequent collisions take place between soldiers and officers. All discipline seems to be at an end."

INSIDE PARIS.

The following are a few items relative to the state of things inside the French capital:—The last num-

ber of the *Paris Siecle* which has reached England contains the following in the boldest type:—"Milk runs short. It is the commencement of the horrors of war." It is said that at many of the abandoned houses in the environs of Paris, the key of the door is left on the threshold with this inscription:—"Walk in and break nothing! The wine is in the cellar." An order of Count Kératry, Minister of Police, directs that any shop of which it is proved that intoxicating drink has been sold there to a man already the worse for liquor shall be closed, and the shopkeeper be prosecuted. Crowds have gone about on the Boulevards, crying, "Café! closed at nine o'clock!" "Away with the prostitutes!" "Disciplined soldiers ought to be on the fortifications." Crowds also accompany and applaud the detachments of National Guards, which go the round of the Boulevards, closing all *cafés* precisely at ten o'clock. The language of some of the journals against the Government is very violent. The *Courrier Français* denounces M. Jules Favre as the compère of Count Bismark, and says that M. E. Picard, another Minister, is doing the work of the Prussians in his journal. The *Cloche* preaches concord, but says that "dis-trust is a Republican virtue."

The following are extracts from letters which the special correspondent of the *Daily News* has managed to send out of Paris as late as the 20th:—

LIFE IN BESIEGED PARIS.—Can you imagine that Paris on Sunday was merry as usual, with but little indifference? Even the Parisians themselves seemed to be astonished at their own carelessness. They were out having their Sunday walks—pleased with a rattle, tickled with a straw—now staring into the dens in the Jardin des Plantes, now mooning about the park at Monceaux, sauntering along the quays, crowding on the Boulevards to drink and to chat; here in costumes over a man who could sing like many birds, there enraptured with the comical doings of a pair of poodles; and everywhere men and women and lads and lasses flirting, flirting, flirting as they flirted when Hercules and Pompeii were to be buried in ashes, and as, doubtless, they will still flirt when the world is being enveloped in the mists of final doom, and the vials of wrath are about to be poured forth. In the great sight of the day, however, which is always the statue of Strasbourg, there is more than usual earnestness. People crowd with their offerings as to a sacred image. In the memory of living men the Parisians have never been so careless of dress as now. Yesterday (Monday), the most curious sign of siege was the number of foreign flags flying about Paris. I went to the British Embassy—there was the Union Jack flying over the gateway in the Faubourg St. Honoré, and, that there might be no mistake, there was a great black board put up to inform the public that this is the British Embassy. Also a similar board on the garden side facing the Champs Elysées. And so all the Embassies have their flags flying. Not only this, but every foreign resident in Paris hangs out the flag of his nation. The number of flags with stars and stripes that meet one in every street give a vivid idea of the regard in which the French capital is held by Americans. The English flags are much fewer. It is supposed that all houses covered with such flags will be respected by either belligerent. The red cross flag of the Society for the Wounded are also very frequent. If anyone sets up a private ambulance in his house—that is, allots one or two beds to the wounded—he may hang out the red cross flag. I expect in a few days to see this flag raised over the Grand Hotel, which has given up 100 of its beds for the use of the wounded.

DISAFFECTION IN PARIS.—The wounded begin to come in from the outposts; but really for the present there is more to be feared from the enemy inside Paris—that is, disaffection—than from the enemy outside. The way in which the extreme men here pitch into the Government, now in newspapers, and now in public meetings, is not encouraging. Some of them—the *Rouge*—insist that there shall be no peace of any kind, and that the war must go on, at all hazards, until victory is won. But these same people insist on a clean sweep being made of the public offices, so that the whole administrative body employed under the Empire—rank and file as well as the heads of departments—shall give place to new men. How is government possible under such conditions? It is of the last importance that the Government should make peace—and here are a set of men who declare that they shall not make peace on any terms, who reproach Ministers bitterly for entertaining the question of peace, and yet these very men begin to cry out for an equal division of food among us, and would embarrass the Government with disturbance if anything went wrong. These are the people who are to be feared. The Government are doing their very best, but the Reds are getting louder and louder each day in their dissatisfaction; they threaten seriously to hamper the Government; and it may be that ere long Paris may regard the incoming of the Prussians as a lesser evil than their supremacy.

THE SUPPLY OF MEAT.—Really, if we have got no greater horror than a deficiency of milk in a town which has any quantity of very good substitute—namely, the Swiss and American preparations of evaporated milk—we shall not have much to complain of. As for meat, the Government, to whom all the cattle and sheep belong, have fixed the price at which the butchers are to sell it. Paris meat will not bear comparison with London meat, but as far as price goes we are better off here in the midst of siege than you are in London. It is ordered that for the present beef shall be sold as follows; namely, all the prime joints at two francs ten centimes the kilogramme; all the secondary joints at one franc seventy centimes; and other pieces at one franc thirty centimes. For the *filet*, however, and what is here called the *false filet*—that is, the rump-steak—the butchers are allowed to charge what they please. Then, for mutton—joints of the first-class, such as legs and saddles, are to be sold, and are sold, at one franc eighty centimes the kilogramme; joints of the second class (shoulders), at one franc thirty centimes; and those of the third class, as the breast, the neck, and the trimmings, at one franc ten centimes the kilogramme. In studying this list of prices, let me remind you that the kilogramme is not merely, as we roughly reckon, the equivalent of two English pounds, it is three ounces and a fraction more. Also, in making the comparison with English prices, it may be well to remember that a

franc is not worth tenpence—it is not worth more than ninepence-halfpenny. The result you will find to be this—that the best beef is ninepence a pound, and the best mutton eightpence. How long these prices are to rule of course no one knows. They may be raised in a few days. In the meantime there is no lack of animal food, and the supply of bread is unlimited. For wine the Prussians outside may envy us; the water runs free; and, altogether, Paris seems to be unusually healthy. When I came here first the death-rate by small-pox alone was 300 a week, and I knew friends in London who would gladly have come to see Paris in this its great crisis, but they were afraid of the terrible disease. Either the small-pox has disappeared, or we hear nothing of it. People forget to be ill in this war. The small-pox has taken fright, and apparently has fled with the emigrants to other lands. Would that other diseases would flee in like manner, but most of all the disease of inveterate misgovernment.

ZOUAVES RUNNING AWAY.—M. Favre and the Parisians may depend on it that the Prussians have not come here (Paris) for nothing. Whatever may be the expectations of the success of diplomacy at the headquarters of the King of Prussia, they are not supported by any success of arms. The fight of yesterday at Chatillon is anything but satisfactory. It appears that originally General Trochu, having reviewed his forces, determined to defend Paris without the help of an army outside. He made up his mind to give up all the strong places beyond the line of the forts. Suddenly came Ducrot from Sedan in the guise of a peasant. Here was a general fit to be trusted with a command outside Paris. Ducrot should have an army of 50,000 men to defend certain heights. They came to a trial yesterday, and the most important incident of the day is the flight of the Zouaves—the boasted Zouaves—without firing a shot. They ran into Paris amid execrations and hootings. They have been arrested in great numbers, and it is proposed to shoot them—at least to make a good example of them—in the Champ de Mars. The young Moblots did better, they stood their ground; but the result of all is, that the army of Ducrot has retired behind the forts, and General Trochu falls back upon his original idea of defending Paris by itself.

THE FRENCH DEPARTMENTS.

Advices from the departments unanimously report the proclamation of the Government delegation at Tours to have had a most inspiring influence upon the population. The people are everywhere calling for arms.

Three delegates from Lyons have arrived at Tours and had a conference with M. Crémieux, the result of which is understood to have been a complete conciliation of all differences, the red flag to remain hoisted at Lyons until the national colours shall be decided upon by the Constituent Assembly. M. Sencier, the Prefect of the Rhône, who, after the 4th of September, was imprisoned by the Democratic party at Lyons, has been released.

M. Esquiros, at Marseilles, has issued a notification announcing that the severest penalties of the law will be dealt out against any persons concerned in illegal arrests. The populace has committed great havoc on the estate of General Reillé, the aide-de-camp of the Emperor Napoleon, who was chiefly active in the capitulation of Sedan.

In La Vendée a staff officer of volunteers, M. F. L. de L'Herbette, has issued a very stirring appeal to arms. But the reasons he gives for a patriotic effort are lamentable indeed. He adopts the theory of the ex-Empress that this is a religious war, and calls upon the descendants of the Chouans to arise and fight against "Protestant savages." He assures them that if the Prussians get into Brittany, they will break the images of the Virgin Mary, violate women, cut children's throats, send all able-bodied men to the galleys, and burn and pillage all the farms and villages. It is a question whether a people so ignorant as to swallow such tales might not be the fitter for being conquered by an intelligent enemy.

The following is a despatch from Amiens:—"The Prefect of the Department of the Somme has issued an address to the inhabitants, stating that, all hopes of peace having disappeared, there remains but one duty for Frenchmen, namely, war to the knife. All men must rise and chase the enemy who pollutes the soil of France, and wishes to dismember her. A general rising and valour equal to that displayed in 1792 can alone save the country." The address concludes:—"Arise, citizens! Enrol under the flag of the Republic, and show Prussia that she will find a tomb where she hoped to complete the abasement and ruin of France." The Prefects of the Departments of the West have formed a kind of confederation for organising the national defence.

The cities of the North of France are, it is said, preparing vigorously to resist any attacks of the Prussians. In Arras the municipality has published a decree, which states that the approach of the enemy within less than twelve kilometres of the walls will be announced by ringing all the bells of the city. After this alarm has been given, no one will be allowed to come into or go out of Arras without a passport. Lille and Blois are also reported to be taking active measures against the enemy. The fortifications of the former town are said to be in a complete state of preparation; the town can be inundated in less than twelve hours; and, finally, there is a good supply of provisions and ammunition. In Blois a committee of defence is formed, which is actively employed in defensive measures.

The occupation of Southern France has been actively undertaken. Forty thousand Prussian troops and 25,000 Bavarians are passing or have passed by rail to Mulhouse, Belford, and Lyons.

The defences of Lyons are being made ready, and large numbers of the workmen are being enrolled. A large number of Italian volunteers have arrived in that city. Resolutions have been passed at Lyons that in case of Paris capitulating the right to surrender will not be recognised, but that the people

will defend their country to the last man. The news received from Lyons is reported to be reassuring. The almost unanimous condemnation by the Parisian press of the attitude of the Provisional Committee has produced the best effects among the population. The members of the different religious communities of Lyons have asked and received permission to leave France.

At Cherbourg the Government has pressed into its service every man who can handle a spade to labour at the new earthworks which they are throwing up with all conceivable activity for the protection of the place on the land side. Every preparation is made for cutting the sluices and flooding the fields. All the cattle are being shipped off, and the people say they know not where to go. The authorities act with the completest disregard of individual loss. At Dunkirk preparations are being made to flood the fields, and houses which are in the line of fire of the fort and within range are being pulled down.

If the Germans should attack Tours, the seat of Government is to be removed further south; probably to Toulouse.

THE BESIEGED FORTRESSES.

The fortress of Toul, which has lately been besieged with heavy artillery, surrendered to the Germans on Friday. This place, which is a fortress of the second or third rank, is situated on the Meuse, completely commands the Paris and Strasbourg Railway, and is the only railway line by which the Germans can send supplies from their magazines to Paris. Hitherto their armies have lacked nothing, but now their transport will be greatly facilitated. In particular they will be able to bring up their heavy guns in large numbers, and with great celerity. A telegram from Bervies, near Toul, on the west side, and the headquarters of the Moselle, tells us that the garrison obtained the same terms as those granted at Sedan. It consisted of 2,240 men and 109 officers. 197 bronze guns were taken, of which 48 were rifled, 120 horses, 3,000 muskets and as many sabres, 500 cuirasses, large supplies of ammunition, 51,989 days' rations, and 143,025 days' pay.

A sharp encounter occurred before Metz on the 23rd. The French attempted to break out in force towards Thionville, at the same time making a feigned attack on Mercy-le-Haut. A heavy cannonade continued for four hours. Ultimately the French were driven back. Fighting extended over several miles. The casualties on the French side were considerable. Bazaine has again sent the Prussian prisoners back into their lines.

Marshal Bazaine has since offered to capitulate if the garrison is allowed free retreat with all arms on condition of not serving against Germany for the next three months. The offer was rejected.

Several pilot balloons have fallen into the hands of the Prussians.

According to advices of the German army before Metz, a Prussian officer, who had a parley with Marshal Bazaine a few days ago with the object of putting an end to the practice of firing upon outposts, was informed by the Marshal that he sought to preserve the fortress and the army under his command for the service of the Emperor Napoleon, and that he had nothing to do with the Republic established in Paris.

From Thionville constant sorties are made, assisted by Franco-tireurs. It is said that the fortress of Montmédy has been captured.

The following telegrams relative to the siege of Strasbourg have been published:—

MUNDELSHHEIM, Sept. 20. To-day at 5.30 p.m., Lieutenant Mueller, with men of the Landwehr Guards, crossed a dike which was just finished, and surprised and took the 53rd Lunette. There was a strong infantry fire of the enemy, which was silenced towards 8 o'clock in the evening.

CARLSRUHE, Sept. 23. The besiegers of Strasbourg made further progress after the lunette (No. 53) had been taken by assault and five guns captured; another lunette (No. 52) was occupied, and a heavy fire concentrated on the latter; considerable loss inflicted on the German troops. The total losses of the Germans from the commencement of the siege are under 500. All permissions to leave Strasbourg are cancelled. The Swiss Delegation report that they found the city less damaged than they anticipated. The greatest destruction is among the houses in the poor quarter. The cathedral is not irreparably injured.

CARLSRUHE, Sept. 25, 9 a.m. Colonel von Buren, one of the Swiss delegates to Strasbourg, has published the results of his visit to the interior of the city. General Urich, he says, manifested little or no curiosity with regard to the progress of events; but Admiral Exelmans, who was to have commanded the flotilla on the Rhine, was more anxious to learn what was passing at other points of the war. The garrison was entirely ignorant of what had happened, but had refused to believe the reports in German newspapers. The populace was confident that the French army was marching to raise the siege. There was great excitement when the truth came out. The cathedral, though somewhat damaged, is not irreparably injured. The astronomical clock is still perfect. The report of its destruction was owing to the fact of its not having been wound up since the bombardment. The French troops in the citadel, after respecting for some days the building on the island opposite Kehl, over which the International flag was flying, shelled it for two successive nights, and wounded two surgeons.

BEFORE STRASBOURG, Sept. 26. Heavy work was got through during last night. The breach has been enlarged.

CARLSRUHE, Sept. 26, 11.55. Before the Swiss delegates left Strasbourg they were told by Governor Urich that it was impossible he could hold out much longer, and that the end must come soon. He said he had gone through several campaigns, and

had served in the Crimea, but had never witnessed nor undergone so terrible a siege. The municipality had resolved, with the Governor's permission, to send a deputation to Paris to represent the condition of affairs and to request instructions. M. Valentin, the new Republican Prefect, and M. Engelhart, the new Mayor, had been permitted to enter the city.

A letter, of which the following are the main portions, has been received from Basle, the writer (says the *Liverpool Albion*) being a gentleman of high position, who has just recently been permitted to leave Strasbourg:—

I have written you from Colmar, and write to-day from Basle, where I arrived last night. If I were not ill I would leave at once for Geneva, but I suffer from rheumatism and intermittent fever, which will not allow me to proceed farther. We passed thirty days in a cellar, with horseflesh, biscuits, and wine as our only nourishment. The bombardment continues. Our part of the town—the Broglie and Rue de la Nue Bleue—has suffered most. My house is burned and demolished, and I was able to save nothing except my money and little deeds. Before I arrived here I sold my horse and carriage for 150*fr.* I have sufficient money to take me to Geneva, and am very anxious to get there, having neither a shirt nor a pair of boots to change—absolutely nothing. I know no one at Basle except Strasbourg people who escaped there, of whom, on my arrival, I found many of the leading families. Three times the Swiss delegates took with them 500 people from the beleaguered place. Five thousand people presented themselves, asking to leave the town with the last conveyance, but as the number to go was limited to 500, the vast majority of the applicants had to be refused. Strasbourg is now in a state impossible to describe. Nothing has been respected. The large hospital has been burned four times. The tower of the cathedral leans to such extent that persons are not allowed to pass the spot. There remain 1,500 horses to eat, and munitions of war for the army, and 14,000 troops, without reckoning the National Guard, to defend the town. To the people distribution is made in the ratio of 15*c.* each, or 25*c.* with a glass of wine. Of bread and biscuits there is no immediate want. If the people could leave the place the military might hold out yet another six months; as it is, three weeks will produce starvation. The interments take place in the Botanical Gardens.

OPINION IN GERMANY.

Count Bismark's claim to convert Metz into a German fortress is strongly condemned by the organs of the German Liberal party. The chief of them, the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—"The doctrine that Metz is a gate for attack in the hands of France, while in our hands it would be a guarantee of peace, seems to us utterly opposed to all reason and fairness. Every other nation would have the same right as ourselves to put forward claims for a better strategical frontier, and this would produce endless wars."

Every acquisition of territory belonging to another nation must be certainly regarded as a conquest, and rejected accordingly. It would be a singular reason, indeed, for our conquering Metz if we said we conquered it because we Germans are a nation which is incapable of making conquests. But though the *Gazette* opposes the annexation of Metz, it thinks that Germany has a perfect right to take Alsace and the German portion of Lorraine, because the inhabitants of those districts form part of the German nation. At the same time it admits that there are many people in Germany of Dr. Jacoby's way of thinking, being opposed to territorial acquisitions of any kind. In commercial and manufacturing circles, it says, there already prevails great alarm at the prospect of the tremendous competition to which German manufacturers would be exposed if the productions of Alsace were admitted duty free into the German market. Others, many of them good Conservatives, urge that the doctrine of nationalities is not applicable in this case, as its fundamental condition, the willingness of the population, is wanting, and Prussia would probably have to govern the new provinces as if they were in a state of siege. This opinion, adds the *Cologne Gazette*, is stated by many ardent German patriots who thoroughly know the country and its people. Another important Liberal paper, the *Ostdeutsche Zeitung*, declares that the fortress of Metz "would in the hands of Germany be a constant menace to France, as it has hitherto been to Germany."

The Prussian authorities find it necessary to take various strong measures to keep up the numbers of the regiments which are in front of the war. Last week the commanding officers of the Landwehr districts received instructions to acquaint themselves with the cases of all invalids from the field army sent to their homes for recovery, so as to be prepared to see that as soon as really recovered they should rejoin their regiments. The number of invalids returning after amputation is very considerable, and has had a sensible effect in checking the volunteering of young men otherwise exempt which went on heartily during the first excitement of the war. Most of the recruits arriving at the regiments are either of this class or the First or Select Ersatz Reserve, which numbered over 30,000 in Prussia alone before the war began.

The arrest and imprisonment of Dr. Jacoby by General Vogel von Falkenstein, the military governor in the coast provinces, for speaking against the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine, except with the consent of the population, has produced a most painful impression throughout Germany. The *Independence Belge* says the German press are unanimous in condemning this abuse of power by the Governor-General. A petition, signed by a large number of citizens, has been sent to the King's headquarters in France, asking that the state of siege may be raised and Dr. Jacoby liberated.

Public meetings are entirely prohibited at Konigsberg, at the instance of the military governor; and the Saxon authorities have forbidden all gatherings of the Democratic Socialists in Saxony.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—

General Vogel is certainly one of the ablest officers of the Prussian army, but he has never been regarded as a politician. In the present instance public opinion charges him with taking an erroneous view of his office. Though a half state of siege prevails along the shores, it is still not very intelligible that Jacoby's speech should have endangered public safety, and, therefore, subjected the speaker to the summary measures necessary against offenders of this description in time of war; while it is still more questionable whether it was not unwise to arrest a man without a party or any appreciable influence, when his imprisonment must lead outsiders to believe that the Government dread his opinion as likely to infect others and counteract the policy pursued by themselves. In reality Dr. Jacoby is a stern enthusiast, and in his separation from all more practical men, a political monk.

Some Prussian papers have begun to doubt whether they had not better content themselves with Alsace and German Lorraine, and leave Metz, which is a purely French city, to the French. These scruples are engendered by a disinclination to coerce a city which, peopled with men of another race, we cannot hope to reconcile to its fate in a reasonable time, if at all. As yet, however, these qualms are confined to but a few isolated quarters. All the Conservatives and the great majority of the Liberals continue to insist that in laying down the new line of frontier none but strategical considerations can be of any weight.

The *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung* has an apparently official article to the effect that Alsace and Lorraine will be annexed neither to Prussia nor to South Germany, but will form a German foreland, occupied and administered under the co-operation of the several States for the interest of the whole of Germany. The territory thus gained will be exempt from military service, and is not to be represented in the German Parliament, soon to be called together.

The *Official German Gazette* for Alsace, published at Haguenau, in its first number alludes to the recovery by Germany of Alsace and Lorraine. It says:—"These provinces, when re-annexed, will soon adopt German politics, being thoroughly German in language, manners, ideas, and even in their partiality for foreigners. They will be, moreover, only too happy to separate from Socialistic France."

THE ALLEGATIONS OF GERMAN CRUELTY.

Several letters have been published refuting the allegations of German cruelty which have been so freely made during the last week or two. Sir H. Drummond Wolff and Mr. Henry James append their names to a communication from Spa, dated the 20th, in which they say:—"We have just returned from a visit to the neighbourhoods of the beleaguered cities, Metz and Strasbourg. We have also travelled some hundreds of miles in a portion of the country most affected by the ravages of the war, and have visited some of the hospitals for the purpose of distributing comforts among the wounded. Thus we have had great opportunities, of which we took advantage, of conversing with French townspeople, peasants, and prisoners. Now, from one and all we have heard not one complaint of the conduct of the Prussian soldiers. On the contrary, the admission has always been made, though sometimes unwillingly, that they have treated both inhabitants and prisoners well. Our own observation confirms these statements. With one exception, where a sentry was somewhat brutal in his bearing towards a crowd at Nancy, we witnessed not one rough act on the part of the Germans. Neither did we see among them one drunken man nor hear one word of bad language. It is true that we have had no opportunity of testing the correctness of the statements which have been made as to the treatment of the French at Sedan, save that we spoke to prisoners from that place, who made no complaint. In an invading army of at least 750,000 men which now exists in France, gathered from different countries, it would be strange indeed if some violent spirits were not found among it. Probably it is true that the French prisoners suffered from want of food at Sedan—but should the Germans be blamed for that? The French army was destitute of provisions. A prisoner informed us that the only food he had received for three days before the capitulation consisted of two biscuits. Unexpectedly, far away from their base of supplies, in a country already drained of provisions and possessing no means of transport, the German authorities had not only their own army to feed, but also one hundred thousand men totally destitute of commissariat supply. However good their organisation, it is impossible to expect sufficiency of food under such circumstances."

The Duke of Manchester writes:—"Allow me to state, in reply to the letter of Mr. Alfred Seymour from Sedan, that I was for several weeks among the German armies. During that time I must have seen many thousand soldiers from different parts of Germany. In the whole of that time I did not see one of those many men even the worse for liquor, much less offering any violence, or even behaving ill to any one. There may have been instances of ill-conduct; but they must have been rare, or I should, I suppose, have seen or heard of them. With regard to the horrors which Mr. Seymour says he was told of as having happened in Bazailles, I can only say that I passed through a considerable portion of the town on the 2nd of September, and throughout the whole of the main street on the 3rd of September. I saw many dead Bavarians, some dead French soldiers, cows, and sheep, which seemed to have been killed during the action, but I did not see one dead bourgeois or civilian—man, woman, or child. During the battle on the 1st of September I did see fugitive French soldiers, driven in from the direction of Givonne,

knocking down French peasants who were escaping with them into Sedan. The insinuations Mr. Seymour makes on hearsay about young girls are, I am convinced, abominable calumnies. No one who has seen anything of German soldiers during a campaign would think them possible."

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

M. de La Guéronnière has been released. The cause of his arrest does not appear.

A band of 200 French volunteers has sworn to kill or capture the King and Count Bismark.

The (official) number of Germans expelled from Paris is 102,000.

The blockade of the Baltic has been formally raised.

General MacMahon has taken quarters at Wiesbaden.

According to a despatch from Port Said, of September 8th, a Prussian monitor has been sunk by the French iron-clad *Surveillante*.

At Rheims a dragoon was fired at from a *café*, for which outrage the town was ordered as a punishment, to supply 2,000 bottles of champagne.

General von Steinmetz has been relieved of the command of the First Army, and is appointed Governor-General of Posen.

Count Palikao has hired a furnished residence at Namur for three months. He has since arrived at Wilhelmshöhe.

The Prussian authorities, in consequence of the great influx of strangers, have forbidden all circulation upon the battle-field of Sedan.

Two French ironclads and a cruiser were seen at Dover on Monday, coming from the eastward. After cruising in the Channel they went back in the same direction.

Lloyd's agent at Calais reports that the police at Calais have received instructions not to allow any Frenchman to embark, whether provided with a passport or not.

The *Patrie* states that a few days back a drunken soldier tried to set fire to the powder magazine at Havre, but was happily prevented from completing his mad attempt.

Owing to the rigorous measures of the authorities, the cattle-plague has been localised within the limits of forty parishes, and it is believed that its further spread in Alsace is now effectually prevented.

The *Peuple* of Marseilles states that the municipal council of that city has unanimously voted that the religious corporations are subject to the common law, and their members must take part in the national defence.

The magistrates and town council of Munich have resolved that 3,000 florins of the sum designed for the October *fête* shall be devoted to the illumination of the public buildings on the celebration of the entry into Paris of the German troops.

The *Ems Zeitung* says it has been decided to employ 1,000 of the French prisoners in constructing a canal between Papenburg and Rhandersehn. They will be accommodated in barracks and guarded by a landwehr company.

The red-cross flag is flying over the Palace of Versailles and the Trianons, and also over the military school of St. Cyr. The vast halls in these extensive buildings have been converted into hospital wards, and already a large number of patients have been received.

It is proposed to establish an *ad interim* administration in those French departments which are occupied by the German armies, but are not to be permanently held by Germany. The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg will probably preside over this administration.

The municipal council of Kiel has resolved to present a memorial to the King expressing a hope that the success of the German arms will lead to the abrogation of the clause of the Treaty of Prague which stipulates the cession of a portion of North Schleswig to Denmark.

A Berlin telegram states that the total number of German troops on French territory is 650,000, consisting of twenty-one army corps, composed almost wholly of troops of the Line, with very few of the Landwehr. There are three other army corps under arms which have not left Germany.

A correspondent writes to the *Voix du Luxembourg*:—"The exaggerations respecting the cruelty of the Prussians are ridiculous. The mayor of Bazailles and his wife have not been burned, but are at Bouillon. The parish priests of Bazailles and of Balan have not been shot. To the former I have spoken lately, and the latter is also safe."

One of Count Bismark's sons, who was wounded, is staying at Nanheim, where, under the careful nursing of the Countess and his sister, he is making favourable progress towards recovery. The King surprised him a few days ago by sending him his lieutenant's commission, which he had made out for him as a reward for his intrepid conduct.

The French prisoners receive three hot meals daily, coffee in the morning, meat and vegetables at twelve o'clock, and soup in the evening. They are very content with their fare, and say that it is more ample than what they had in the French army. The only thing they grumble at is, that they receive rye bread instead of wheat bread.

A correspondent affirms that there is no truth in the report that Marshal MacMahon has been removed to Brussels, or as another account had it, to Bouillon. He still lies not far from Sedan, suffering much from his wound. He is attended by a surgeon and a Sister of Charity. A house has been taken for the Marshal at Wiesbaden.

On the day after the capitulation of Sedan the King of Prussia gave the following toast:—"We must to-day, out of gratitude, drink the health of

my brave army. You, War Minister Von Roon, have sharpened our sword; you, General Moltke, have guided it; and you, Count Bismark, have for years by political management brought Prussia to its present elevation. Let us then drink to the army, to the three I have named, and every one else present who according to his ability, has contributed to the present success."

The sword which Napoleon laid at the feet of the King of Prussia was not returned to the fallen Emperor, as some papers have by mistake supposed. It is among the trophies of war, if indeed it should not rather be considered as standing apart from them, and it will have a place in the Berlin Arsenal.

A Prussian spy was recently arrested at Port-Maillot, near the fortifications, of which he was taking a correct note, while he pretended to be selling a cheap popular "Life of the Brave General Urich, the defender of Strasbourg." He was giving change, when, by inadvertence, he took out two gold twenty-franc pieces, which excited suspicion, and he was arrested. The Mobiles arrested another spy wearing female attire.

The military hospitals exhibit some singular cases to the surgeons. One man was struck by a ball in the head, which lodged in the internal arch between the skull and the brain. He is well in health, can eat, drink, and sleep well, but cannot move about, as, if he does, he feels the ball rolling in his head. Another, whose brain was reached by a bullet, partially lost his memory, and has forgotten all his nouns. If he wants his gun he is obliged to ask for it by a paraphrase.

One effect of the investment of Paris has been the total or partial disappearance of most of its daily newspapers. The *Volontaire*, *Histoire Publie*, and *Parlement* have discontinued publication. The *Charivari*, *Electeur Libre*, *Liberté*, *Monde*, and *Reveil* are only printed on half-sheets. The *Constitutionnel*, *Pays*, *Français*, *Gazette de France*, *Monde*, *Siccle*, and *Union* are now published at Tours. The *France* is published at Blois. The publication of the well-known *Galignani's Messenger* has been suspended.

A Berlin correspondent writing on the 21st says:—"Up to this date the number of the dead and wounded on the German side is estimated at rather more than 60,000. About 25,000 more are suffering from illnesses of various kinds. As to the third category of losses in the field, less than a thousand Germans have been taken prisoners in the entire campaign. Among the dead and wounded there are three times as many officers as there ought to be in proportion to the men—a fact which speaks unmistakably for their bravery."

A member of the English Ambulance at Sedan found the following letter on the body of a dead Frenchman, evidently a surgeon in high position:—"In the midst of the fight, with cannon-balls flying around me, I send you my farewells. The balls and bullets which have spared me during four hours will not be tender to me much longer. Good-bye, my own loved wife. I hope some charitable soul will take care that this farewell shall reach you. I have borne myself bravely, and I die because I would not abandon our wounded men. A kiss—H. V."

When the Emperor returned from the battle-field into the town of Sedan on the ever-memorable 1st of September, he alighted from his horse and gave the reins to a boy of fourteen, who was standing in the Place de Turenne. At the moment the shells from the Prussian batteries began to fall in the town, and one of them burst at the foot of the statue of Turenne. The Emperor, who was but ten paces from his horse, escaped, but the horse's legs were broken, and the poor boy had his two legs and his right arm taken off. He was seen by a recent visitor to the ambulance, a few days since, still living, but without much hope of recovery. His mother was his attendant.

Recriminations still go on as to the responsibility for the disaster of Sedan. General Wimpffen, replying to the Emperor's *aides-de-camp*, avers, among other things, that he ordered General Lebrun, with the 12th Corps, to attempt to cut his way through the Prussian lines in the direction of Carignan, and asked Napoleon to place himself among his soldiers; meaning to spare His Majesty the pain of being made a prisoner, and to make use of his *prestige* in order to facilitate a combined movement, without which it was impossible to cut through. But, continues General Wimpffen, "the Emperor would not consent to that proposal, and ordered the white flag to be hoisted, unknown to me,"—at the same time sending a flag of truce to the Prussian head-quarters. The last offensive movements were, therefore, spoilt in their execution; to what extent, we may easily enough conceive, when we remember General Wimpffen's statement in his bulletin to the army, that only 2,000 men out of 90,000 had responded to an appeal to break their way through the enemy.

THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

Respecting the Emperor's health, M. Pietri thus reported to a correspondent of a daily paper at Wilhelmshöhe:—"Physically the Emperor is decidedly better: he can mount on horseback: he was mounted for several hours at the battle of Sedan, where the Germans admit he was exposed to a heavy fire: morally the Emperor is suffering much." To the remark that misfortune should have made him a philosopher, M. Pietri replied that his sorrow was beyond all philosophy to bear. What affects and yet, at the same time, consoles him most are the letters of sympathy which he receives from England.

The correspondent of the *Standard* thus describes an interview which he had with Napoleon at Wilhelmshöhe:—"If I am asked what was the predomi-

nant impression left on me by the conversation which followed, I reply unhesitatingly the strong feeling of the Emperor with respect to England. Almost the first words that passed his lips were an expression of gratification at the numerous letters of condolence and sympathy he had received 'since his misfortune,' from persons who were perfect strangers to him, and there was nothing on which he seemed to dwell with so much pleasure as on the advance which had been made during his reign in the cordial understanding between the two countries. 'When I came to Paris,' he said, 'there was still great remains of the old ill-feeling'; and he dwelt with marked gratification on the change that had since taken place. He was much interested, too, in the condition of English feeling at the present time, questioning me closely on the subject, and expressing his regret at the tone assumed by a portion of the London press. The monstrous statement of his having misappropriated some fifty millions of the army votes seemed particularly galling to him. 'As if,' he said, 'I could possibly have done such a thing, even if I had desired it.' He spoke most feelingly also of the terrible catastrophe of the Captain, expressing the strongest sympathy, and dwelling upon some of the details of the accident in a manner which showed fully the interest he had taken in it. The assistance given by England to his wounded soldiers had evidently also made a great impression upon him. Speaking of France, and of the present condition of affairs there, his tone—which in dealing with other matters had been earnest but not uncheerful—saddened visibly, and he sighed heavily as he spoke of the state of things at Lyons and elsewhere, and of a not improbable future in store for Paris. There was not the slightest appearance of resentment in the way in which he spoke of the changes that had recently taken place, but a terrible foreboding of what might come. I ventured to express a hope that all might yet go well, and that before long we might see him once more at the Tuileries. He sat for some moments silent, then, with a sigh, turned again to me and said, 'No one can tell—no one can tell, sir, what may happen now.'

The *Times* asserts that the Emperor Napoleon has left France a poor man. Unless we are misinformed, (the *Times* says) the Emperor retains no private property but a small cottage which came to him from his mother. Napoleon III. will leave his German place of captivity at the end of the war almost as poor a man as he was when he entered France in 1848. The Empress has, indeed, her jewels, gifts at her marriage and on her *debut*-days; but these are her private property, the State jewels being now in the hands of the French Government at Tours; she has, besides, an hereditary property in Spain, and the Prince Imperial has a house which has been bequeathed to him near Trieste. This, it is believed, is all that remains to the family which lately was supreme in France. Napoleon III. has much to answer for at the bar of public opinion, but the world will do him this justice—that, though for so long a period he distributed the favours of the most splendid State in Europe, he left France in his old age with little of its wealth cleaving to him.

The Emperor's personal coolness forsook him for a moment after the battle of Sedan. Dr. Russell writes:—"When Count Bismarck rode out to meet him on the morning of the 2nd of September, and stopped the carriage at the historical cottage, a change for an instant came over the Emperor's face—I have good authority for this—when he saw the Count throw himself off his horse, which he let go loose as there was no one to hold it at the moment, and advance to the carriage in haste. But it—whatever it was—passed away in a moment."

The ex-Empress Eugenie and the Prince Imperial left the Royal Marine Hotel, at Hastings, on Saturday, for Campden House, Chislehurst.

Queen Victoria has within the last few days addressed a letter of sympathy to the Empress Eugenie.

The position of the North German Government towards the Emperor Napoleon is thus defined by the *North German Correspondent*:—"Should Louis Napoleon be definitively deposed by the formal decision of the French people, we can assure the neutral press that Germany will not move a finger in the cause of Bonapartism. Such a course would be incompatible both with our feelings and our interests. It is absurd to talk of Legitimist sympathies for a family whose present head has described himself as a *parvenu*. Till France, however, has decided on her future destinies, Louis Napoleon, for us, is still the Emperor."

M. Jules Claretie, one of the commissioners appointed by the French Government to edit and publish the Imperial correspondence captured at Dieppe, in a letter which appears in the *Cloche* says:—"You can have no conception of the depth of the mire. The country when it reads what we are reading will experience nausea."

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

METZ TO BE STARVED OUT.—We know it must surrender. The Prussians have set their heart on taking it, and, if I can believe in what they say, they would rather take Metz than Paris. With the stone walls the Prussians say they do not mean to meddle. They seem far too well-advised to run unnecessary risks. The stone walls they know cannot hurt them, but the men inside them can. They have only to bide their time till the great hosts which lie within them are reduced to the level of children; they have only to wait till, according to the usages of "civilised" war, the women and children in the city are starved out, and then till the army is reduced by attenuation to such a state that the stone walls and great bastions, the moats and covered causeways, and all the great defences which might

make even cowards brave, will become useless in the hands of a famished crowd. There will be no blood-stained ruins here, but there will be as bad. There will be houses filled with dead and dying, or almost empty, and echoing only to the hollow voice of famine. Heaven forgive us all—for as a Christian I cannot but feel that if Metz is starved it will be a spectacle to shock the world. You have not seen what I have; you have not seen the miserable traces of starvation; you have not seen, as I have, what real starvation is, with all its horrors, not of grown men suffering, but of women and little children. I have; but yet I dread the day when we shall enter Metz after it has been starved. "Starved" in writing or in print is only a participle; think for a second of what it means, done deliberately, systematically, skilfully, and by force of 250,000 people. I would not dwell on the repulsive horrors of Sedan; I would not dwell on the abject sufferings of the French prisoners; nor can I dwell, for I have not seen it yet, on what the suffering in Metz must be, where people are kept till they die of hunger unless they yield. The troops will take all the provisions, and then think what the condition of the women and children will be! The Prussians have now a telegraphic communication all round Metz, by which means they are enabled to collect over 8,000 men in one spot within the space of fifteen minutes; and upon a late occasion I had an opportunity of observing, when the assembly sounded, that within twenty-eight minutes a force of 22,000 men, consisting of every branch of the service, were in full marching order, ready to proceed to the front.—*Letter in the Times.*

THE TEUTONIC INVASION OF FRANCE.—It has been such a flood of invasion as has been seldom seen in the history of the world. There has been the energy of some Teutonic inroad of the fifth century combined with the careful preparation of modern thought and science. The rough cavaliers who lead the way are indifferent to hardship and danger. With them it is a change from damp bivouacs one day, to snug quarters in a fine old chateau on the next. They take good and evil fortune as it happens to come, live well when they can, and frighten the inhabitants far more than they hurt them. Then follow the regular brigades and divisions, the artillery and ammunition, of the main army. Guns are dragged steadily forward, wagons block up the roads, whole fields and hill-sides are turned into camps, as the army advances. There is no delay in the rear. More and more wagons come streaming up from every depot of provisions. The field telegraph is brought into play as fast as possible, and the field hospitals are got ready, stage after stage, for the sick or wounded who may require help. To travel up to head-quarters when one has lingered a few days behind the great machine is a curious study. In some respects, it is painful to pass through a country so occupied and overwhelmed by soldiers. There are no blazing ruins to tell of an enemy's passage, no women complaining of outrage, no bodies of murdered men lying in the streets, as in bad old wars of other times. But there is a pitiful scarcity of food and a sullen tone of despair among the inhabitants. They have been eaten up, they say. Not a drop of wine is left, not a crust of bread. If this goes on much longer they must starve. Take any small village by the wayside. Let a force of hungry, thirsty men march through such village, and the result is certain. Food will be devoured, liquor will disappear, the people will groan over their losses, as well they may, poor souls! Yet with remembrance of what has been in war, and of what might be again, these villages are rather to be congratulated that they live in times like ours. The dreaded foe has been among them, and this is all that has been done.—*Letter in the Daily News.*

THE BURNING OF BAZEILLES.—The *North German Correspondent* of Wednesday informs its readers "how the burning of the village of Bazeilles really occurred. During the battle of Sedan, about three o'clock in the afternoon, while the artillery fire was raging on both sides, some Bavarian troops were marching past the village, when suddenly half-a-dozen musket-shot were aimed at them from a house. The Bavarians, who had been victims of a similar treachery at Weissenburg, immediately broke the door open, but the intending assassins had fled. The house was set on fire, and the inhabitants opened a regular fusillade on the Germans from every window. At six o'clock the whole village was in flames. Our soldiers tell frightful stories of the ferocity of the people. Men and women united in massacring wounded Bavarian soldiers in the streets, and were to be seen lifting them up and throwing them into the flames. The village was destroyed, but comparatively few of the inhabitants perished, and we are assured by an eyewitness that French, or even English troops, would have ruthlessly exterminated the whole murderous population. The smell of charred flesh, of which the Duc de Fitzjames speaks in his letter to the *Times*, came most probably from the burnt bodies of our brave Bavarian brothers."

THE BREAK-DOWN OF THE FRENCH MILITARY SYSTEM.—A letter written by a French officer of MacMahon's army, in which the causes that must in any case have inaugurated the defeat of that army are vividly depicted, has just been published. The letter formed part of a mail that was captured by Prussian cavalry, and its statements are the more important, inasmuch as it was written on the 26th of August, five days before the catastrophe of Sedan, when MacMahon's new army had neither given nor received a blow. The writer said even then that the French generals had lost their heads. After reviewing a succession of mistakes in the earlier conduct of the campaign, he says that it was the Emperor who pre-

vented an attempt being made to march by Verdun to the help of Bazaine at Metz as soon as four army corps had been united at Chalons. The retreat to Rheims, when the Crown Prince advanced to Chalons, was made to cover Paris, leaving Bazaine to his fate; but the Council of Ministers at Paris met, and resolved to send the Emperor word that his dynasty would be lost if Paris were allowed to suppose that the situation of Bazaine at Metz was desperate, and that only the defence of the capital was being thought of. Thereupon the march to relieve Bazaine was resolved on. This statement, it may be remarked, not meant for the public eye, tallies exactly with the known facts. "But," says the officer, "our marches are difficult, for we know not how to subsist, and plans change from day to day. At first we were to have gone from Rheims to Montmédy, then to Mézières, turning the Argonne, and now we advance through the defiles of the forest." This officer foresaw the catastrophe as it actually took place. He says that the 1st Corps—MacMahon's—had not been properly reorganised since the battle of Woerth, and that it was deficient in guns, and many other things indispensable to an army taking the field. This statement is remarkable as confirming what has since been perceived as the deficiency of the French in cannon; if they had not enough before they lost 450 guns at Sedan, how can they afford to lose them as they did last Tuesday under the walls of Paris? The *intendance*, or commissariat, this officer says, had completely broken down, and the want of necessities that prevailed in the French army could hardly have been worse if every telegraph and every railway in France had been destroyed. As the leaders were undecided as to their plans, often not knowing late in the afternoon where they meant to march the next day, it was impossible to send forward and inform the maires of the various villages of the approaching arrival of troops. This officer had no map of France, neither had his general one, good, bad, or indifferent. He bears, however, a more serious testimony still. "The failure of daily rations, and the disorders of the first days of our retreat upon Saverne and Lunéville, entirely broke down the discipline of our corps (MacMahon's, afterwards Ducrot's). Everywhere our men pillage and rob even in the very houses. The villages through which we pass suffer more than those visited by the Prussians. Here in the army itself robberies of officers take place; the demoralisation is abominable. Our commander-in-chief does his best to repress this disorder, but his efforts are vain; our army, which already has the most incapable generals and the most ignorant officers in all Europe, has also the most undisciplined soldiers. Our African troops are an ulcer; they have ruined the rest of the army in respect of discipline."

THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN THE EMPEROR AND THE KING AT SEDAN.—As everything connected with the fall of Napoleon III. will possess an interest for all time, I venture, late as it is, to write from this town of Coulommiers an account of what occurred when His Majesty and the King of Prussia met at Bellevue. Those who have seen the King and the Emperor can imagine how each looked at that moment. That grand old King, who recalls heroic images of such monarchs as Tennyson would coin out of the finest mintages of his brain, an ancient lord of his people believing in the cloud by day and the pillar by night of the God whom he trusts; and the man broken with cares and bodily pain, who, after a life so adventurous, romantic, and impassioned, saw Destiny before him at last. Well! Let me go on to my little history. Old or new, it comes from the best sources. When the news came that the capitulation had been signed, the King felt that he could accede to the Emperor's wish for an interview; but a question arose as to the propriety of His Majesty's going to see the fallen Kaiser, and it was suggested that Napoleon should come to his quarters. A more generous spirit prevailed, and the chivalrous old King was easily moved by the Crown Prince's idea that there could be no lack of dignity in going to see the Emperor in the little Chateau of Bellevue, to which he had moved out from Sedan at four o'clock in the morning, in consequence, it is said, of certain manifestations under his windows by the French soldiery. Indeed, it is reported that he sat for some time in his carriage on the high road till he saw Count Bismarck, whose interview I described in a previous letter. So the King, accompanied by his son and by his Staff and escort, rode off to Bellevue, and there, on arriving at the chateau, saw the French Generals assembled in a sort of conservatory with glass sides off the main saloon. The King alighted, and the Emperor met him at the last step of the flight leading from the court to the hall. King and Emperor shook hands and walked upstairs together, passed into the conservatory, from which the French officers withdrew, and then went into the saloon or drawing-room. The Crown Prince closed the door and remained outside, and King and Emperor stood face to face. The King spoke first. God, he said, had given the victory to his arms in the war which had been declared against him. The Emperor replied that the war had not been sought by him. He had not desired or wished for it, but he had been obliged to declare war in obedience to the public opinion of France. The King made answer that he was aware it was not the Emperor's doing. He was quite sure of it. "Your Majesty made war to meet public opinion, but it was your Ministers who created that public opinion which forced on the war." His Majesty, after a pause, remarked that the French army had fought with great bravery. "Yes," said the Emperor, "but, Sire, your Majesty's troops possessed a discipline in which my army has been wanting lately." The King remarked that for some years

the Prussian army had been availing itself of all new ideas, and watching the experiments of other nations before '66 and subsequently. "Your artillery, Sire, won the battle. The Prussian artillery is the finest in the world." The King bowed, and repeated that they had been anxious to avail themselves of the experiences of other nations. "Prince Frederick Charles decided the fate of the day," remarked the Emperor. "It was his army which carried our position." "Prince Frederick Charles! I do not understand your Majesty. It was my son's army which fought at Sedan." "And where, then, is Prince Frederick Charles?" "He is with seven Army Corps before Metz." At these words the Emperor started and recoiled as if he had been struck; but he soon recovered his self-possession, and the conversation was continued. The King inquired if His Majesty had any conditions to make or to propose. "None. I have no power. I am a prisoner." "And may I ask, then, where is the Government in France with which I can treat?" "In Paris the Emperor and the Ministers have alone power to treat. I am powerless. I can give no orders and make no conditions." The King then remarked that he proposed, if agreeable to His Majesty, to assign to him the Castle of Wilhelmshöhe, at Cassel, as a residence, which the Emperor accepted, and nothing further of importance passed, except a final leave-taking; after which the Emperor, with emotion, expressed to the Crown Prince his sense of the King's kindness and courtesy, for I believe His Majesty let fall also some expression of regret or sorrow for the reverses which had placed the Emperor in his power when he first saw him, and preserved his usual stately benevolence of manner throughout the interview.—*Dr. Russell in the Times.*

STRASBOURG CATHEDRAL.—To the naked eye the siege of Strasbourg, as viewed from the heights behind Offenbourg, looks very like the siege of Strasbourg Cathedral. The Cathedral is the only building that can be seen; the Cathedral standing, as it does, on high ground in the very centre of the city, can be seen entire. For the Cathedral, in spite of the stories circulated as to the damage done to it, is entire. The clock, I believe, has been injured, and it is said that a shell broke through one of the celebrated glass windows and burst close to the organ. I am sorry to hear from soldiers who have had a much closer view of it than I am likely to have until the city is taken that the spire has been struck in many places; but I have been within a mile and a half of the Cathedral, and as regards the general appearance at that distance, can declare it to be unchanged. In any case, it is a foolish calumny to say that the besiegers have fired upon the Cathedral. It was difficult to avoid hitting it from time to time, and if stray shots have indeed touched it, the fact will be regretted by the Germans as much as by the French.—*Letter from Offenbourg.*

IMPROVED ASPECT OF SEDAN.—As I drove down the gentle slope into Sedan I met the townspeople, male and female, the Cook's tourists, and the relic-hunting riffraff of Belgium, sauntering in *diletante* fashion along the road, which three weeks ago had a ghastly fringe of corpses. The relic-hunters were picking up the knapacks out of the ditch, and stealing the sword bayonets that had been set up in lieu of tombstones. In the open space between the *enceinte* and the minor fortifications stood the captured French artillery—five long straight rows of cannons, seventy-five in each row, besides numerous mitrailleuses, and tumbrils. A single sentry did duty over the vast park. I read in Bouillon descriptions of Sedan calculated to give a very erroneous idea of its condition. One would imagine it a city of the pest, fetid with noisome exhalations, fever stalking abroad among a dejected population, moodily brooding on revenge. Nothing could be further from the truth. Once or twice, it is true, as I approached the town, I caught a whiff of an odour with which I had become familiar on the plain of Gravelotte; but I could detect no taint in the atmosphere of the town itself. In the moats, Prussian soldiers were punting, and from the bridges they were bobbing for weapons of war hidden by the water, occasionally bringing to the surface the blunted corpses of those who had erstwhile wielded these same weapons. All the shops in the town were open, and business seemed tolerably brisk. That the spirit of enterprise was not wholly dead was evinced by huge posters announcing "an immense consignment of cigars," and every *debit de tabac* was doing a roaring trade. The convalescent wounded, with pallid faces and thin limbs, were placidly sunning themselves on the steps of the public buildings or tottering feebly about the streets. Sedan has been put in a state of siege. It was taken with a view to putting a stop to thieving and burglary, for which, where there are still so many untenanted houses, and while a considerable amount of floating rascaldom (chiefly Belgian) is haunting the place, there were great facilities. Under the badge of the red cross scoundrels circulate freely who are capable of anything, from robbing a widow to butchering a wounded man for the sake of the three groschen in his pocket.—*Letter from Libramont, Sept. 20.*

THE RETRIBUTION ON PARIS.—One of the special correspondents of the *Times*, writing from Brussels, says:—"Here are journalists, actors, pillars of the Bourse, singers and dancers, artists (in France every tumbler or tight-rope vaulter is an artist) from the Cirque de l'Impératrice, whole orchestras from Paris concerts (Strauss himself included), ballet-girls, and ambiguous females in numbers, but hardly recognisable in sedate attire and in the absence of paint. That national institution of France, the rouge-pot, at times pretty freely exported into some other countries, is forgotten in the sadness of exile. If war is a great destroyer and a dreadful scourge, it is also in some respects a mighty purifier, and so Paris,

when it shall have got through its present trials, will, perhaps find it to have been. It will need to work, and not to play, when the Prussian hosts which now intercept its communications and menace its forts shall have marched away. It was an idea worthy of the Second Empire to convert the greatest capital of the Continent into a toy-shop, a playground, and an hotel for the whole of Europe; to expend enormous sums on its embellishment, trusting that the foreigner would pay the interest; to drive the working population to the outskirts, and make only the wealthy welcome to a city of luxury and pleasure. All intellectual culture and progress were put entirely on the second line in this monster Temple of Folly, and we have for years beheld the consequence of unhealthy direction in the degraded condition of French literature and art, and in the indecency and venality of a contemptible Press. Paris was to become the great centre of the world of luxury and pleasure. When the present war shall be over, and France shall have leisure to count its cost, we shall see what becomes of the design, already to a considerable extent executed, but still far from complete. The transformation of the French Babylon is likely to remain imperfect for many years to come. Where are the funds to be found for the prosecution of these mighty works, when France will have to pay, not only her own expenses in the great contest not yet closed, but also those of her victorious opponent? Fortune has pronounced her verdict, and it carries costs. Economy must now be substituted for the lavish expenditure that has astonished Europe. New boulevards, incomplete demolitions, rows of stately houses as yet only half erected, are likely for some time to remain as they are. The Great Napoleon Avenue, begun at both ends, will be long before it can make them meet. And what has become of Haussmann? Whither has he betaken himself to contemplate this crash of empires? In what corner of the world is he curbing that 'devouring activity' which changed the whole face of Paris, and saddled it with burdens it may have difficulty in sustaining?"

THE FRENCH PEASANTRY AND THE WAR.—Everywhere the French peasantry decline to make sacrifices for its continuance, and look to the Government to bring it to a speedy close. Sir Tollemache Sinclair, who has travelled with the Anglo-American ambulance, writes from Sedan that, at a small village where he halted he took the opportunity of talking to a number of the people, and found they no longer feared the Germans, and that only one man out of the entire population had volunteered for the army, and he had only gone because he had quarrelled with his wife. "In fact," he writes, "the rural population of France is sick of war, glory, bloodshed; they have no arms, and few of them know how to use a gun. Indeed, there were only about six fowling-pieces in the village and neighbourhood, and those the Prussians had taken. They feel that their rulers are to blame for an aggressive and unprovoked war, and they see clearly that, whether victorious or beaten, they will get but little thanks for the danger and sufferings which they are invited to encounter." Correspondents with the Third Army, who passed by Rheims, Eprenay, and Montmirail, say that it is possible that the parts of rural France now occupied by the Germans, if consulted, would vote "Oui" to-morrow if the surrender of Alsace and Lorraine were put to them. Mr. S. J. Capper writes from Nancy that although the people of Alsace are evidently attached to France, and would not make any effort to reunite their country with Germany, he did not find a trace of that indignation against Germany, and that determination to remain a portion of France, of which we have heard so much. One old resident at Hundsbach expressed his opinion very concisely, "Whoever has Hundsbach has me; whether the French or the Prussians have Alsace, all is one to me; whoever has it, the peasant will have to pay the taxes, which are heavy enough." And so they leave the Government to settle the matter.

(Continued on page 931.)

Postscript.

Wednesday, September 28th, 1870.

THE WAR.

The following special telegrams appear in this morning's *Times* :—

VERSAILLES, Sept. 27, 10.15 a.m.—Yesterday the Crown Prince held a parade in the courtyard of the château, for the distribution of rewards and honours to officers and soldiers. The Prince took his station on the base of the statue of Louis XIV. There is nothing serious to report. The French are fortifying at Velizy. The Duke Max of Wurtemberg was wounded at St. Cloud. The weather is magnificent. Balloons are sent up from Paris.

BERLIN, Sept. 27, 1.20 p.m.—M. Thiers said at Vienna that the French Government thinks Prussia is not in earnest when demanding a cession of territory. She probably preferred this demand only to make its withdrawal a concession which might secure her a counter-concession. Nothing can be more erroneous.

In a long telegram from the special correspondent of the *Daily News* from Arlon, consisting chiefly of details of the surrender of Toul, are the following

items of information :—"Paris was closed in on the 19th as follows :—Fourth Corps opposite St. Denis, twelfth supporting it; then following from east to south the Guard and fifth, sixth, eleventh corps. The western arc of 120 degrees, protected by the Seine doublings, was held by cavalry. The condition made by King William, preliminary to all peace discussions, is—the entry into Paris, so says an officer of head-quarters who left the city after Jules Favre's visit. At Paris no offensive movements are contemplated during the next three weeks; a strict investment only."

CARLSRUHE, Sept. 24.

A great meeting of the Fortschritt party has been held at Munich, at which it was resolved to accept the Stuttgart propositions, and to request the King to take immediate steps to enter into the North German Confederation. Representatives of the Democratic Socialist party attended, and were allowed to make protests against Bavaria joining the Confederation, and against the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine.

It is understood that Prussia has assented to alter Articles 62 and 64 in the North German Federal Constitution so as to allow the Bavarian forces to be an independent portion of the general army, having their own uniform and arms, and being exempted from garrison duty out of Bavaria in peace time. The King of Bavaria will retain the right to appoint to the command of his forces and fortresses. The addresses from Kiel to the King of Prussia, asking him to violate the stipulations of the Treaty of Prague relating to North Schleswig, are regarded with general disapproval.

It would seem from a report in a Vienna paper, that the Emperor has been alarmingly ill at Wilhelmshöhe.

M. Thiers has arrived at St. Petersburg.

Orleans was occupied by the Prussians yesterday. At a Cabinet Council held at Tours yesterday, the Ministers resolved on resistance to the last. All the men of twenty-five and upwards have been called out. It is possible that the seat of Government may be changed. Large bodies of Franks-tireurs were there, and are splendidly armed. The country people were pouring into the town.

The Mayor of Marseilles has posted up a placard calling for a loan of ten millions of francs. M. Zaffirpoto, a Greek merchant, has placed three millions of francs at the disposition of the municipality for the purchase of rifles.

According to a German despatch from the royal head-quarters, the Mobile Guards who have been pressed into the army at Paris are deserting in bodies of from twenty to fifty, and are returning to their homes. About 200 of them have been shot for disobedience.

M. Jules Favre's report of his conversations with the Chancellor of the North German Confederation has been published in full by the Government at Tours.

DEPUTATION TO MR. GLADSTONE.

A deputation, organised by the Labour Representation League, yesterday waited upon Mr. Gladstone, to urge Her Majesty's Ministers to immediately recognise the French Republic, and to use their influence to induce Germany to refrain from insisting upon any annexation of territory, in order that the war might be brought to a speedy conclusion without further humiliation to the French nation. The right hon. gentleman, in reply, repudiated the charge of lukewarmness on the part of the Government, who, before the war commenced, and since, had lost no opportunity to bring about a peace. When the two nations were fairly discussing the terms upon which it should be made, Her Majesty's Government would not be found wanting; with regard to the annexation of territory as one of the conditions, that was a point upon which he could at present offer no opinion. For all practical purposes diplomatic intercourse was now kept up with the Provisional Government of France; but it could not be expected that our Government should go in advance of the French people. It was prepared to acknowledge any Government they should decide upon, whether Republic, Monarchy, or Empire, when they had formally declared their election.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The attendance of millers here to-day was fair, and the improvement noticed on Monday last was maintained; but no quotable change took place in prices. There was a limited supply of new English wheat on sale, and the arrivals from abroad were far from being extensive. The demand for all descriptions was moderately active, at the rates previously current. Barley was steady in value and demand, at fully previous quotations. Malt was quiet, at scarcely late prices. The market was abundantly supplied with oats, the demand for which was steady, on former terms. Beans and peas experienced a steady sale, at the extreme prices of Monday. Sales in flour were effected to a moderate extent, and prices were well supported.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.				
Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch 670	170	—	—	—
Irish	—	—	—	—
Foreign	8,010	4,700	—	20,000 600 qrs.
				Malt, 6,760 qrs.

Nature says that the Smithsonian Institute of Washington has appointed a committee of scientific men to make a series of experiments to ascertain the temperature of the earth's crust at a considerable depth below the surface. For this purpose an artesian well at St. Louis is to be utilised, and as this is 3,843 feet deep, some interesting results may be looked for.

MRS BAYNES and her Sisters, the Misses **BEARD**, have REMOVED from Denmark-hill to a larger house at **HAMPSTEAD**, where their PUPILS will RE-ASSEMBLE early in SEPTEMBER. Prospectuses will be forwarded on application to Mrs. Baynes, Mount View, Greenhill, Hampstead, N.W.

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NOTICE.—We beg to call the attention of our Subscribers to the rule of the "Post Office Act, 1870," that "a postage of one halfpenny is fixed for EACH transmission of any Newspaper which may be sent by post subsequently to the 30th September, 1870."

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1870.

SUMMARY.

THE war between Germany and France is to be carried on to the "bitter end," or, at all events, till the capitulation of Paris. Such is the inevitable result of the breakdown of the negotiations at Ferrières, the Royal head-quarters, between Count Bismark and M. Jules Favre. While the exchange of views was proceeding relative to the question of convening a French National Assembly to ratify any provisional treaty that might be concluded, the Prussian Chancellor deemed it expedient to publish the two despatches to the Prussian representatives abroad, in which it was laid down that Germany, believing that, under any circumstances, France would attempt to revenge her present defeats, could accept no security short of the possession of Metz and Strasbourg—a diplomatic mode of stating that she is determined to annex the two provinces which contain those fortresses. The terms of peace on the part of the Berlin Government having thus been made known, Count Bismark offered the French Provisional Government an armistice, till the meeting of the Constituent Assembly, on the basis of the surrender of Strasbourg, Toul, and Verdun, which would facilitate the German communications, and leave them in their present position with freedom to bring up supplies. If France had been prepared to accept the German terms of peace, such an armistice would not have been unreasonable.

But the proposed armistice has been indignantly rejected by the members of the French Government in Paris and at Tours respectively. In the proclamation issued at Tours it is declared that "Prussia desires to continue the war, so as to reduce France to the rank of a second-rate Power," and that she has asked the surrender of Mont Valerien—the key to the defences of Paris—as well as the other fortresses. Whether this last statement was a misconception or a perversion of Count Bismark's proposals is not quite clear. But the Government declare that the Parisians will rather bury themselves in the ruins of their city than accept such impudent terms, and that "France accepts the contest and relies upon all her children." The elections for a Constituent Assembly are suspended by decree, and all municipal authorities are retained in office, so that nothing may distract the work of national defence. The Government of Paris in their separate note add:—"We have wished to stop this barbarous conflict, which is decimating two nations to the profit of a few ambitious men. We accept equitable conditions, but we will not cede an inch of territory or a stone of our fortresses."

During these negotiations warlike operations were going on. Early last week the German armies—a quarter of a million strong—were drawn closer around Paris, and met with no resistance, except on the southern side. Here General Ducrot with three divisions sallied forth from gates of the city to attack part of the corps of the Crown Prince on the heights of Sceaux, near Meudon, and was driven back "in wild confusion," with a loss of seven guns and 2500 prisoners. While the Garde Mobile stood their ground, the Zouaves, and other troops, the *débris* of Woerth and Sedan, fled back into the city, and were received with execrations by the hapless Parisians. This was on the 19th. We know that General Trochu has decided to remain within the fortifications, and, according to Prussian despatches, the investing host will now await the arrival of their siege train. The great fortress, as it may now be termed, is being blocked, and will be invulnerable till one or two of the detached forts on the south have been taken by regular siege. Three weeks will be given to the work of investing Paris. We have news from the beleaguered capital conveyed by balloon and a carrier pigeon up to Friday last. These advices tell of new French successes, but past experience warrants us rather in believing the German official telegram of the 25th, to the effect that, "with the exception of a few unimportant outpost skirmishes before Paris, nothing new has taken place."

But the Germans are not confining their operations to the capital. A great army of 65,000 men has crossed the Rhine from Baden, and is marching by way of Mulhouse and Belfort upon Lyons, the second city of France, where the red flag still flies, and which is defended by only raw troops. Strasbourg, in the rear of the new invading force, still holds out; another unsuccessful attempt has been made to break out of Metz—which Marshal Bazaine declares he holds with his 80,000 men for the Emperor, and not for the Republic—but the little fortress of Toul has succumbed, thereby improving the Prussian line of communication in the rear. While Tours, the provincial seat of Government, is threatened that a removal to Toulouse, further south, is contemplated, Orleans, within seventy miles of Tours, has been occupied by the Germans, and the promised army of the Loire, which was to have defended central France, is not yet formed. Alarm and preparation are manifest as far north as Lille and Dunkirk, and as far west as Havre and Cherbourg, and as far south as Marseilles. But the response to the fervid proclamations of the Government has, so far as is known, been feeble. The French people, especially the agriculturalists, are calling for the termination of the war, and the press is full of complaints of the towns that prefer to come to an understanding with the invader, to fighting him. Apparently if Paris and Lyons should soon capitulate, the war would collapse, and France be disposed to accept whatever terms of peace Count Bismark might exact.

The same day on which Paris was closed to the outer world—Tuesday last—Rome was opened to the Italian troops. There was a brief siege and a slight loss of life before the Papal Zouaves obeyed the Pope's command to offer no further resistance, and then the Italians marched in. Quiet has since prevailed in Rome, and the city is still *en fête*. The foreign troops are being escorted out of the country, though what is to be done with the 700 brigands who had recently been incorporated with the Zouaves, is not mentioned. Pius IX. does not seem heart-broken. He is agreeably surprised that order has been so well preserved, and has asked for the protection of an Italian guard instead of his own in-subordinate gendarmes. Rome will now be the capital of Italy, and Florence, as well as all the chief towns of the kingdom rejoices that the edifice is now crowned. General Cadorna, who has appointed a Provisional Municipality in Rome prior to the popular vote which is to be taken on the 2nd of October, ascribes Italy's good fortune to the favour of heaven. This claim is rather too audacious. However, Rome is won, and the Romans are liberated from a stupid priestly régime. But it may be doubted if Italy will greatly gain by the change. National bankruptcy is by no means far off, unless Victor Emmanuel's Government are prepared for a policy of thorough reform and economy.

M. Thiers, the roving diplomatist of France, has been exchanging opinions at Vienna, and is now at St. Petersburg. His mission to induce the neutral Powers to oppose the alienation of French territory met with no encouragement from Austrian Government. The Czar has already shown his sympathy with Prussia, and is said to

have approved the terms of the armistice offered to France by Count Bismark. But M. Thiers appears at St. Petersburg as a tempter. He offers concessions on the part of the Provisional Government in reference to the Eastern question. The bait is not very likely to be swallowed. The fact is important mainly as an indication that M. Thiers and his colleagues are prepared to throw overboard all international scruples, if they can only preserve French territory inviolate.

REJECTION OF AN ARMISTICE.

WHEN M. Jules Favre set out from Paris to Ferrières, the head-quarters of the King of Prussia, he must have formed in his own mind some conception of the sacrifices he would consent to make on behalf of France, for the purpose of obtaining from her triumphant foe a temporary cessation of hostilities with a view to peace negotiations. We wonder what was the price which he held himself prepared to pay for the concession he went out to seek. His last circular admits, with manly straightforwardness and unreserve, that the war was one which had been thrust upon Prussia, sorely against her will, by the Imperial Government, and that the heavy responsibilities rashly incurred by the Emperor and his surrounding minions devolved, by his dethronement, upon the French people. He well knew that since the terrible reverses sustained by the French army at Sedan, no opportunity had been given to the French nation to reorganise its Constitution or to give expression to its united will upon the question of the war now desolating its fairest provinces. He could hardly have expected from the Prussian monarch, or from the statesmen who accompanied him, close as they were to the very walls of Paris, to resign, at his sole request, and upon his personal assurances, any of the advantages which they had won at such incredible cost. And, one would suppose, he must have been prepared to listen to terms corresponding, to some extent at least, with the prostrate position to which his country had fallen. The world knows nothing as yet of what passed in detail between himself and Count Bismark; but the world was, perhaps, taken by surprise when it learned the demands made by the latter as the condition of granting an armistice, and the indignant rejection of those demands by the Foreign Minister of France.

The unhappy issue of the Conference is much to be deplored, and in this more especially, that it indicates on the part of France, or of those who speak for her, an indisposition to face the realities of the situation, and to conform to the obligations imposed by stern necessity. What M. Jules Favre might have assented to in his individual capacity it is difficult perhaps to divine. But, unquestionably, his rejection of the terms offered him by Count Bismark was mainly influenced by a regard to political considerations from which it was impossible to free his mind. The spirit of Paris was present with his spirit, when the terms of the armistice were disclosed to him, and the passion with which he rejected them was but a reflex of the passion which was flaming in the bosom of the capital. As spokesman for Paris, and for Paris as the presumed representative of the whole of France, it is hard to see how he could have decided otherwise than he has done. He was asked to place Strasbourg, Toul, and Verdun, in possession of the enemy. Of Toul the Government of the Revolution had already pronounced that it had "deserved well of the country," and the desperate resistance offered by Strasbourg to the besiegers had won for the statue which in Paris personified that frontier city no end of floral wreaths and garlands expressive of Parisian admiration and gratitude. It required a will of heroic mould, even if that will had been under the guidance of free and undoubting judgment, to go back to Paris with the announcement that both fortresses, together with Verdun, had been given up to the Prussians. The probability is that M. Jules Favre's negotiation to that effect would not have been ratified, and it was quite possible that he would have paid the forfeit of his life for the assumed pliancy of his patriotism. We can hardly blame him for having discharged his mission in the manner in which those for whom he undertook it would have had it discharged. Count Bismark offered moderate terms. France has rejected them with ostentatious scorn. These two facts taken in connection, and in contrast, one with the other, suggest several very painful reflections.

The first of these is that France has not yet accepted that position for herself which she would regard as unexceptionally appropriate to any of her neighbours in similar circumstances. Her feeling towards Prussia is that of bitterness towards a supposed aspiring upstart. She can-

* According to intelligence received this morning from Darmstadt, Strasbourg surrendered last evening at five o'clock.

not understand the right of the Germans to take the usual measures for their permanent quiet to which, according to International usage, they are entitled on account of unprovoked aggression. She resents as an indignity the notion that Germany should presume to do to France what France fully intended to do to Germany. She has played out her game of offence, and has lost it,—but she deems it an outrage and an insult to be asked to pay the stakes. She has now very small reason indeed for expecting that the fortune of arms will be reversed. For four years she has been assiduously preparing to break into the territory of her neighbour, and to allot to herself such portion of it as might seem most convenient to her. The armed host which was intended to march to Berlin has been "crumpled up," and, for the purposes of this war, annihilated. Germany has put forth a supreme effort to secure her future safety from attack. Her armies have shut in Paris from all communication with the outer world, and seem likely enough to starve it into surrender. At this crisis, France asks an armistice that she may reconstitute her Government, and her foe offers it, on condition that certain fortresses shall be given up; and France cries out against the proposition as though an unheard-of advantage was being taken of her misfortunes. The demand made of her was in its own nature not an unusual one, nor was it in character and extent an immoderate one. Undoubtedly it was one which, if the Imperial army had prevailed, would have been far surpassed in magnitude by the French people.

The sting of M. Bismark's terms consists entirely in the fact that the offer of them places France upon a level with other European States. It touches French supremacy in Europe. It deposes France from her position of exclusive international privilege. It deals with her as with a confessed delinquent. It exacts from her a pledge of future good behaviour. That this is wise, on the part of Prussia, we much question. That it will be ultimately persisted in, at least to the extent of annexing Alsace and the German-speaking portion of Lorraine to Germany, is perhaps doubtful. But for France, however she may lament it, to complain of it as an outrage, and to make an indirect but piteous appeal to neutral nations to prevent it, only shows that France is not yet sensible of the enormous wrong of which she has been guilty.

We have not much faith in her persistent rejection of reasonable terms. The French people have not yet learned the truth respecting their position. The proclamation which has been issued by the Government at Tours, affords too conclusive evidence that even the Republican Government does not disdain to imitate the unvarnished of the Governments that preceded it. No people who ask to be fed with falsehoods can be relied upon to stand firm when they are confronted by facts. No people who insist upon having "smooth things" prophesied to them, are entitled to count upon foreign intervention lest their vainglory should be too cruelly shocked. And this seems to us to be the last touch of sadness to the picture, which the war presents to us in relation to the French people. They are evidently buoyed up by the expectation that the neutral Powers will not let her sink, while, at the same time, they are exhibiting a national temper which would prevent intervention on their behalf, even if the neutral Powers were otherwise disposed to exercise it. We regret as much as any one the rejection of the armistice by M. Jules Favre. But we do not look upon it as precluding the hope that, so far as fighting goes, the war is nearly at an end, or that, in regard to the ultimate settlement, a little further delay may, possibly, bring with it to Europe at large, as well as to the combatants themselves, such compensating results as are associated with finality.

THE HOME SECRETARY ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

THE Earl of Carnarvon and Mr. Bruce have been addressing the public on the well-worn subject of national defence. In his speech at Highclere, the peer advocated with moderation the view that we should always be prepared for invasion; the commoner in his address at Glasgow thought we might rest secure in our present position without alarm. Lord Carnarvon was undoubtedly more eloquent than his brother statesman. His arguments were ingenious and elaborate, but singularly inconsistent, and in his excessive candour the Conservative peer actually answered himself. If Mr. Bruce was prosaic, he was also logical. His remarks on our defensive position are the quintessence of common sense. They carry conviction with them. We have little doubt that they express in general terms the policy of the Government,

and we cannot but rejoice that at a time when so many of our public instructors are disposed to lose their heads and resign themselves to silly panic, the rulers of the country can look with statesmanlike equanimity upon the war which is raging on the Continent, prepared to mediate should any favourable opportunity offer, but unprepared to frighten England with unfounded alarms.

The Home Secretary frankly declares that he cannot discover in the overwhelming victories of Germany "any such immediate or pressing danger to this country as would lead us suddenly to change our system, or to rush into rash resolution." If England has had ought to fear from continental nations, it has been on the side of France, which Mr. Bruce says "will have enough to do for many a year to come to repair the injury she has received in this war." The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in its indignation at the right hon. gentleman for ignoring its theories, perversely construes this language as the formal congratulations of a Cabinet Minister on the defeat of France. Surely Mr. Bruce may state an obvious fact without laying himself open to so unfair an imputation. Our contemporary has himself repeatedly declared that the jealousy, pretensions, and armaments of France have for years past been a standing menace to Europe. The Home Secretary sees no ground for alarm in the prospect of the unity of Germany, and though her arms have been so remarkably successful, he is disposed to place "the greatest confidence in the general wisdom of the German people."

The *Pall Mall* seems to be specially hurt that Mr. Bruce entertains no alarm at the military preponderance of Prussia. "Undoubtedly," remarks the Home Secretary, "the Prussian armies are so strong that at this moment we could hardly meet them upon equal terms in the field; but how is Prussia to transport her army here? How is she to reinforce it and to supply it with all the ponderous material of war, without which no army can move? The thing itself hardly requires arguing, and it therefore seems to me that, while we should wisely turn to account the experience which we have gained during these last weeks, time enough is before us to enable us to do so cautiously." This is the language of common sense, and in quoting it our contemporary evades its force. "Apparently," it is said, "Mr. Bruce does not know that there are such things as ships, or that the terms on which peace will be made in the end are pretty sure to include the transfer of the whole or part of the French navy to Prussia." Be it so. What then? Surely the *Pall Mall* must know that a few ironclads cannot transport an army of 100,000 men with all the material of war across the North Sea, and he must remember that the powerful French fleet has been unable, during these two months of fine weather and favourable opportunities, to enter a single port or land one battalion on the German coast. But England has at the present moment an ironclad navy that would crush the naval armaments of France and Germany combined. Lord Carnarvon is fain to admit that our first line of defence is as efficient as could be desired; but his lordship is still scared at the bugbear of invasion, and wants us to prepare for a contingency that can hardly by any turn of events arise.

Of the three systems of national defence to be chosen from, Mr. Bruce naturally prefers our own. England would not endure the conscription of France, and is not prepared to accept the Prussian plan by which every citizen is liable to military service. Our army is recruited by voluntary agency, which answers all the demands of the nation, unless we are anxious to compete with the great armaments of Continental Powers. It is simply a question of policy. If we are content to pursue a purely defensive course in relation to European affairs, both our naval and military resources will suffice, and as Mr. Cardwell tells us we have a larger force in this island than has been known for half a century. Does the *Pall Mall Gazette* contemplate the sending of troops across the Channel to settle continental quarrels? If not, we are at a loss to understand the demand that England shall become a military nation. Our Government are thoroughly organising the defensive forces of the country, promoting efficient training, utilising the volunteer element, and cutting off costly excrescences. This seems to us to be doing the right thing at the right time. Great Britain, we are assured, if not prepared to follow in the wake of the great Powers of Europe, and accept their costly follies, will lose her status in the commonwealth of nations. This cuckoo cry is disproved by contemporary events. We know that both the belligerents in the present war have first of

all thought of the action of our Government and the drift of English sentiment. Our statesmen were called upon by European opinion to take the lead in the attempt to avert the war, and they will, when the fitting time comes, be expected to head the neutral Powers in the work of friendly mediation. The truth is, our moral influence throughout the civilised world was never greater than at this present moment, when blinded partisans assure us that it is only a tradition of the past.

AUTUMNAL CABINET COUNCILS.

JOURNALISM has been hard upon Her Majesty's Ministers. We do not wonder at it. Not that Mr. Gladstone, or his colleagues, have laid themselves open, since the prorogation of Parliament, to severely adverse criticism. They have not. Their policy, and—which is much more important—the application of their policy to the questions suggested by the Franco-Prussian war, have met with the quiet approbation of the country. Journalism, we think, will admit this. But journalism, though not indisposed to praise the men in authority who carry into effect the will of the people, loves to mingle with the praise a peppercorn or two of biting censure. It gives journalism a pleasing sense of its high impartiality, and its superiority (before the public eye) of the common infirmities of humanity. Journalism, however, is not our topic just now. We have to direct attention to "Cabinet Councils." One has been summoned for the 30th inst. And the *Times*, in making the announcement, heads it with the side title, "AT LAST." Those two little words, no doubt, have been quite a treat to the newspaper official who supplied them. They condense such an indefinite volume of dispraise. All that can be said of them is, that they probably please the writer, and can do the Queen's Ministers no harm.

It is quite a privilege to be able, and we may say, to be authorised, to impose heavy responsibilities which in no way affect ourselves upon other people, and to exact from them, with a truly heroic resolution, a devotion to public duty which we are not personally called upon to pay. There must have been a luxurious delight in taking Ministers to task for their negligent performance of their duties from the middle of August until now. "No Cabinet Councils! The greatest and most desperate war of modern times being waged on the continent, and yet for six weeks no Cabinet Councils." And now, as the *Times* heads the news, "at last," Her Majesty's advisers are to have a meeting—a sort of *avant courier*, we do not doubt, to a long succession of meetings between this and Christmas. The war, perhaps, and England's position with regard to it, will be likely enough to monopolise Ministerial anxiety for a week or two; but there is room to suppose that the programme of measures for next Session will come in for a share, at least, of the Council's deliberations. English people, it is true, have been living a good deal abroad since the commencement of the most sanguinary war of modern times—that is, in thought, and sentiment, and sympathy, and the Home Secretary, we shall assume, has enjoyed an unusual interval of freedom from holiday complaints. But, after all, Her Majesty's Ministers will have to meet Parliament with a fresh chapter of domestic policy, and it is no very daring stretch of imagination to suppose that the new series of autumnal Cabinet Councils will be employed, to some considerable extent, in shaping it. We are about to take the customary liberty of our brethren of the quill, and, albeit with unfeigned respect, to tender a word or two of unsolicited advice.

The Liberal party, or, in other words, the party upon which the Government of the day leans for support, necessarily comprehends several sections, but it may be roughly divided into two—that which inclines more or less to Conservatism, and that which is intent upon steady political progress. It can hardly admit of a question, we think, that in the only great and vital English measure of last Session—the Elementary Education Bill—the course pursued by the Ministry, was chalked out with a far more distinct reference to the wishes of their opponents, than to those of their friends. They were rewarded by large majorities in the House of Commons. They secured the ready acquiescence of the House of Lords. They succeeded in triumphantly passing their Bill. The Shrewsbury election, however, has come just in time to remind them that victories thus won are not all victories. The price at which they were purchased, however payment may be deferred, will have to be paid in the end. And the price in this case is sure to be, as it has been, the disintegration and demoralisation of the Liberal party in the country. The Shrewsbury

election may be taken as a fair premonition of the inevitable tendency of what we should call Palmerstonian tactics—that is, calling in the opposite side to aid in thrusting unwelcome legislation upon protesting friends. The friends of religious equality have had their *verve* taken out of them, and it is not unnatural that in coming electoral contests they should allow trifling impediments to hinder them from coming up to the poll, and so leaving room for the return of anti-Ministerial candidates. Their known disappointment, indeed, presents just that opportunity and invitation to Conservatives to contest vacant seats, which they are far too keen to neglect. What has occurred at Shrewsbury may very likely occur elsewhere, unless appropriate steps are meanwhile taken to prevent it. This untoward result is due to the most natural causes. The rank and file never fight with ardour when their fighting is turned to account by their leaders for purposes which they vehemently repudiate.

We commend this very obvious lesson to the consideration of the Cabinet. The Nonconformist section of its supporters was first neglected, then played with, then snubbed, last Session. The thing cannot be done again without drawing after it lamentable consequences. The mistakes of the past may be condoned, but are not likely to be until they are practically abandoned. It is not expected of the Government that they will support any motion for extending to England the policy of disestablishment and disendowment, which in the Session of 1869 they applied to Ireland. But it will be insisted upon that a retrogressive policy shall not be adopted—that minor measures of advance shall not be lukewarmly supported, or tactically thwarted—and that questions involving the principles of religious equality shall not be systematically thrust to the background. In shaping their programme for the Session, Ministers, we hope, will not forget that Dissenters are as necessary to them as they are to Dissenters. No very unreasonable demand will be made upon them—but they will, perhaps, bear in mind, that efficient support steadily rendered is entitled to something more than contemptuous treatment, and, sooner or later, will make its title good.

THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT.

NOTWITHSTANDING all that has been said and done respecting the new Elementary Education Act, there are comparatively few persons who really know anything of its provisions; how far, and in what manner, they extend; or in what degree the people themselves have any voice or share in the working of the new system. This is partly the result of the numerous amendments introduced during the progress of the measure through Parliament, and partly of inability to comprehend, without proper explanations, the technical jargon, without a large amount of which no Act of Parliament, however brief, is held to be perfect. To the many alterations effected in the Government measure is owing also the absence of uniformity in the various clauses of the Act as finally passed; not to mention numerous practical defects which will require rectification at the earliest possible opportunity. As the Act now stands, it provides that the power which is to set the educational machinery in motion shall be given to the Education Department, which, during the first few months of the working of the new system will necessarily take all the initiatory steps for the purpose of showing what is to be done under the various clauses. The Act applies to England and Wales only; and the three principal objects it seeks to effect are, to provide sufficient elementary schools, to arrange for their maintenance and efficiency, and to compel the attendance of children. Elementary schools are to be provided in every school district, so as to supply a sufficient amount of accommodation in public elementary schools available for all the children in the district, whose education is not otherwise provided for. Where there is not a sufficient amount of school accommodation in any district, a "school board" is to be formed, whose duty it will be to supply such deficiency. If the board neglects or refuses to perform its duty, the Education Department can step in and do it instead. The members of the school boards are to be elected in the metropolis by persons whose names are on the burgess roll; in the country, by the ratepayers. Nothing is said respecting the eligibility of candidates for membership. In the provinces each school board is to consist of not less than five, and not more than fifteen members. The metropolis is divided into ten districts, but the number of members in each has yet to be decided upon. Each voter will have as many votes as there are members to be elected. He may give these votes singly to

each of the candidates preferred by him, or to one candidate only. The chairman of the board, who must be a member *ex officio*, will receive a salary, the amount of which is to be fixed by the board. Provisions are made for preventing members from deriving personal emoluments from any of the offices under their control.

The powers of the new school boards are very considerable. They each become a body corporate, and practically acquire power over the whole of the elementary schools in their respective districts. They cannot interfere with existing schools, they can only supply the deficient amount of accommodation, but this virtually renders them masters of the majority of elementary schools in this country. The funds required by the various boards are to be obtained from school fees, moneys voted by Parliament, or raised by loan, and out of the local rates. The amount of school accommodation required in each district, will be determined by returns obtained by the Education Department. The schools to be managed and maintained by the boards or under their authority, are to be public elementary schools, which are defined as schools in which elementary instruction forms part of the education given, and in which the ordinary payments in regard of the same do not exceed ninepence per week from each scholar. Each child must pay a school fee, the amount of which will be fixed by the board, but it must not exceed ninepence weekly. In cases of poverty the payments may be remitted for a period of not more than six months. Such remission is not to be deemed parochial relief, but the parents or guardians will have to satisfy the board they are unable to pay the school fees. Generally, gratuitous instruction will be discouraged. The boards have special powers for acquiring lands on which to erect schools, also to acquire right of way to such lands, so that it will no longer be in the power of any landowner to prevent the erection of schools in his district, for should he succeed in overawing the local board, the Education Department can interfere and do the work neglected by the board. As a rule, the greater part, if not all, of the English elementary schools will gradually pass into the hands of the various school boards, whose extensive powers and means of procuring ample funds will necessarily furnish them with advantages which mere private enterprise could never hope to obtain. Provision is made for investigating complaints which may be urged against any of the school boards, also for the proper publication of their accounts every half-year; ample facilities being afforded to ratepayers to obtain copies of the same, to inspect copies of proposed bye-laws, also to inspect all school books. In fact, a very considerable amount of power has been delegated to the ratepayers, with the view of enabling them to control, as far as possible, the action of the school boards, thus placing, as it were, the schools under the direct superintendence of the ratepayers.

The attendance at the schools is to be compulsory. This being a new feature in our educational system, considerable difficulties are anticipated in the earlier working thereof. The school boards have power, subject to the approval of the Education Department, to make and enforce the necessary bye-laws. As a rule, every child in good health, and not less than five, nor more than thirteen, years old, must attend a school, if there be one within three miles of the place where the child is living. It is not necessary that the child should attend a school carried on under the management of the board, but it will have to be shown that the education received elsewhere is of an efficient character. On reaching a certain specified standard of education, the child may be exempted from further attendance at school. This is likely to act as a powerful stimulus, especially in the manufacturing districts, where remunerative employment can be obtained at a comparatively early age. It will also, if the powers of the board be properly exercised, do much to check the evil of infant labour in unsuitable occupations, especially in Staffordshire and other counties, where large numbers of children are employed, despite the existence of Workshop and Factory Acts, in, to them, heavy manual labour. The maximum penalty, including costs, for each non-attendance, is fixed at five shillings, which amount can be recovered in a summary manner. The working of the compulsory clause is expected to prove very difficult at first, especially among the poorer and more ignorant classes of the community, the adult members of which generally look to the labour of their children as a means of increasing the family income.

The "religious difficulty" has not yet been quite overcome. The Act expressly declares that no religious catechism or religious formulary which is

distinctive of any particular denomination shall be taught in the schools. It also says:—

It shall not be required, as a condition of any child being admitted into or continuing in the school, that he shall attend or abstain from attending, any Sunday-school, or any place of religious worship, or that he shall attend any religious observance, or any instruction in religious subjects in the school or elsewhere, from which observance or instruction he may be withdrawn by his parent, or that he shall, if withdrawn by his parents, attend the school on any day exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which his parents belong.

This is the clause which excited so much debate in Parliament, no less than fifty amendments being proposed. As it stands, a portion of the clause (the latter part) and the two following clauses will at first be found difficult to carry out. Some of the scholars will have to get to school earlier than others and stop later, or to go later and leave earlier; and it will be difficult to make the children understand why this should be so. In time, however, matters will probably adjust themselves; but for a long period the work will be found the reverse of easy. The remaining features of the Act are of minor importance, referring chiefly to matters of detail; but they will be found amply described and explained in the concise and valuable digest of its provisions, from the pen of Mr. Hugh Owen, jun., published by Messrs. Knight and Co., Fleet-street, and in Mr. Preston's "Guide to the Elementary Education Act," published by Mr. Amer, Lincoln's Inn Gate; either of which will be found to contain all the information necessary concerning the provisions and working of a measure apparently destined largely to influence the social future of this country.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY ON SMOKING.—In the Economic Section of the British Association, in the course of some discussion on a paper by Mr. R. Wilson, L.O.P., on "The Statistics of Tobacco: its Use and Abuse," Professor Huxley, the President of the Association, gave an amusing account of his experience of smoking. He said he was placed in a rather awkward position with regard to the question of smoking, for, for forty years of his life tobacco had been to him a deadly poison. He was brought up as a medical student, and he had every temptation to acquire the art of smoking, but his smoking, after a few puffs, always resulted in his finding himself on the floor. (Laughter.) He failed to become a smoker when he was an officer in the navy, and he had for a long time a great antipathy to smokers, but some few years ago he was making a tour in Brittany, where he stayed at an old inn. It was awfully wet and cold without, and a friend of his took to smoking, and tempted him to have a cigar. His friend looked so happy, the fire was so warm within the inn, and it was so cold and wet without, that he thought he would try to smoke, and he found himself a changed man. (Laughter.) He found that he was in the position of a lamentable pervert (more laughter), and his case would illustrate to them the evil of bad associates—although the person who led him astray was a most distinguished man, and a late president of the British Association. From that day he dated his ruin. (Laughter.) From that day, whenever smoking was going on they might be pretty sure that he joined in it. There was a certain substantial satisfaction about smoking, if kept in moderation, and he must say this for tobacco, that it was a sweetener and an equaliser of the temper. He was glad to state that in his opinion there was nothing worse than excessive smoking; but anyone could undertake to destroy himself with green tea or any other article of diet, if carried to excess. (Laughter and applause.)

OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.—The foundation stone of the new buildings for Owens College, Manchester, was laid yesterday by the Duke of Devonshire, who has been appointed the first president. For this extension of the college a sum of 102,000*l.* has been raised in Manchester during the past two years, of which 67,000*l.* is available for the building. Accommodation will be provided for about 800 or 1,000 students. The Duke of Devonshire said that if the object of the college should be completely fulfilled, it would be only a matter of time that Manchester should be as distinguished for her school of literature and science as she now was for being the great centre of industries. Professor Huxley afterwards spoke, and congratulated Manchester upon having helped herself without waiting upon Government aid. He should, he said, most heartily like to see the example copied in every part of the kingdom. Professor Tyndall also addressed the meeting, and expressed his conviction that the future of Owens College would be a thoroughly great one. The Bishop of Manchester, Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., Mr. Birley, M.P., Mr. Cawley, M.P., and Sir W. Fairbairn were also present at the ceremony.

It is rumoured in New York that Jenny Lind (Madame Goldschmidt) is to give concerts in the United States.

Dr. Tregelles's Greek Testament, complete to the end of St. Jude's Epistle, is promised in one volume on the 1st October. The Apocalypse will follow as soon as the Doctor's health, which is still far from good, will allow him to resume his labours: and with it will be given the proper appendices.

THE WAR.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

(Continued from page 927.)

THE GERMANS AT RHEIMS.—As to the behaviour of the troops, there could be but one opinion—that it was admirable. The women and children strolled through the streets, gazing listlessly on the regiments marching through just as if they were French instead of Prussian and Bavarian troops. Just as I was leaving the town, a lady, and a pretty one too, came down the street alone, without any protecting husband or brothers. Seeing the horses of your correspondent and a confidant at the door, she stopped quietly and had a good look, not, I am obliged to own, at ourselves, but at the two horses which we had just bought. Having formed her opinion about our cattle—let us hope a favourable one—she went to the end of the street to watch a Prussian regiment marching out. The soldiers all made way for her, as for all others of her sex, as she passed down the street, with true politeness—honest politeness, and no French-gilt half-impertinence.—*Letter in the Pall Mall Gazette.*

TURCO FEROCITY.—An amiable warrior of this North African breed, or half-breed, was having his wound dressed by Dr. Mittenzweig, of Oranienburg, near Berlin, when, taking the luckless medical officer at an unguarded moment, as he was turning aside to arrange his bandages and other materials, the son of France—by adoption—drew a knife and stabbed his benefactor. Dr. Mittenzweig, having lingered six days, is now dead.—*Letter from Belgium.*

THE SPOILS OF WAR.—The special correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Donchery, says:—"The work of collecting the arms and carouche-boxes will be an onerous one. The latter are lying about in thousands on the roads, and on the woody heights they are even more numerous. As for the arms, it was time for some authority to look after them. Tourists were carrying them away by the score as *souvenirs* of the great battle, and a brisk traffic had been established in chassepots, carried over the Belgian frontier despite the vigilance of the douaniers, who keep a tolerably sharp look-out after them. The Prussian garrison at Sedan have set an example in commencing the work of collecting the arms. They are dragging the moats surrounding the fortifications, and that part of the Meuse which runs close by the walls of the town. The 'take' is wonderful. When the capitulation was effected the unwounded troops of MacMahon's army were collected as prisoners in a large field near the Sous-prefecture. While there they seem to have thrown away as much of their arms and accoutrements as they could possibly get rid of. The field itself is pretty well covered with shakoes, helmets, cuirasses, cavalry valises, knapsacks, and cartouch-boxes, with here and there a smashed chassepot. Most of the discarded swords and chassepots were consigned to the bottom of the river or to that of the moat. Prussian soldiers are fishing them up in great numbers and piling them in huge heaps on the Donchery road. A little further on is a field of about three acres. Here the French cannon and the French mitrailleuses are packed. What a sight for a Frenchman to look at! Over 200 cannon and mitrailleuses, with ammunition wagons, and the other accessories all complete and ready for use by the Prussians. The mitrailleuses here are of the larger kind. Until you come close to them they have the appearance of an 18-pounder brass gun mounted on four high wheels, but on a near examination you find that the muzzle, instead of having one round opening, consists of twenty distinct apertures in rows of five, each aperture being of the size of the bore in a rifle. Prussian artillerymen are engaged in oiling and polishing up these mitrailleuses, in seeing that the metal boxes in which the charges are inserted drop into their places properly, and that the screw by which the instrument is discharged is in proper working order."

LOOKING INTO METZ.—To-day I visited the Observatory, which is posted on a hill some 400ft. above the level of this village, distant from it a couple of miles in the direction of Metz. It commands a magnificent view of all the surrounding country, and the very strong telescope with which it is provided enables one to observe, even to the minutest details, Metz and its *entourage* in this direction. Looking towards the fortresses, one had, on the right front, the outlying forts, first of Plappeville, and, second, of St. Quentin; on the left that of St. Julien. In Plappeville we could see a very large body of men—a working party, probably—digging out of the place; in St. Quentin no stir was visible, and the only prominent (human) feature in the place was a group of three officers, standing on a parapet, and returning the compliment which we were paying them by staring at us through their glasses. St. Julien had all the appearance of being deserted—not a living being was visible. Right in front was the great point of interest—Metz itself. The strong glass enabled us to see as if on the table of a camera obscura, and almost as clearly as in a miniature photograph, the town, the fortifications—even individuals moving about, and all the life and action of the place down to the minutest details. Altogether outside the works one saw the white tents of a large encampment, and within the works, and within the town, wherever there was an open space, white tents again. Everything looked very gay and bright in the strong noonday sunlight. The fine cathedral—the most prominent feature for miles up and down the valley—was the only sombre object in the scene. The other public buildings—the arsenal, the various barracks and hospitals, the artillery school, and half-a-score of churches, all built of a light-coloured stone—looked as brilliant

as possible. It was difficult, from their low elevation, to make out the minutiae of the works, and I could only half satisfy myself that I had identified Cormontaigne's masterpiece, the double crownwork of Belle-Croix and that of the Moselle. Yet individual figures were clearly discernible wherever the sunlight fell strongly in the camp, on the works, and in the town, moving about singly and in groups, and here and there by the river, which winds itself all through and about the town and fortifications in strange sinuosities, cattle enough to convince one that from famine, at all events, the garrison need not capitulate for some time to come, unless, indeed, the rinderpest, which is rapidly spreading in the surrounding district, should find its way into the place. Looking at the size and brightness and life of the place, it was difficult to realise that it is absolutely cut off from all the external world, and yet it is absolutely.—*Letter in the Times.*

GERMAN VIEW OF THE ENVIRONS OF PARIS.—The special correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette*, writing from headquarters at Chateau Quincy Segy, on the afternoon of the 15th inst., says:—"It is perfectly true that the whole country surrounding Paris has obeyed the orders issued from the capital. All eatables and drinkables have disappeared, and the villages are deserted. Through the broken and gaping doors of the houses where our men have quartered themselves may be seen the household utensils all lying in confused heaps, and through the opened windows the stern and reproachful glances that come from the life-sized picture of the old grandfather, who no doubt lived at the time when the Prussians entered France in 1815. The clocks upon the chimney-pieces have remained, a thick coat of dust lies upon the silk and damask covering of the chairs and sofas, the flowers in the room hang their heads, and here and there may be seen a red-cheeked milliner's doll in the window, which our men have adorned with the silk bonnet of the absent young lady of the house. Everything seems sad and deserted, and much damage has been done in the several houses; but it is the fault of the people themselves, who have fled, and who later will accuse us of Vandalism if they cannot recognise their superb sofas. And how absurdly, how foolishly, have they set to work to conceal their provisions. For instance, our soldiers in a house at Couilly went into a grocer's shop and found a new flooring of cement had recently been laid down. Hatchets were brought into use, the cement torn up, and all the wares and provisions of the grocer were found hidden in the cellar—sausages, hams, cheese, rice, wine, liqueurs, &c. One discovery like this leads to another, and the inhabitants on their return will be astonished to find the Prussians have so well ferreted out their hidden provisions. The roads and highways are deserted, and nothing is to be perceived in the fields save the birds and the ownerless dogs which have been left behind. The gardens of the different mansions are quiet and silent as the grave, and the lakes are undisturbed save by the wind which blows the autumn leaves about the surface of the water. Now and then a car comes along with one or two officers, or else the courier carrying the mails. A blue blouse is seldom to be seen, for they have all left, and are no doubt hidden in the woods. Without a doubt we are looked upon as savages and barbarians, and the few who have remained in their houses are rejoiced at finding how harmless we are in our communications with them. The whole of our troops remark the bitter enmity and hatred shown them by all the female sex. But only the old women have remained behind; all the young ones have been carefully hidden away. Thus, for instance, a few days ago an officer's servant came to his master—a member of the general's staff, and, putting on a comical look, said, 'Lieutenant, when I went up into the loft to get some straw I found two pretty girls hidden away amongst it, who commenced to cry most bitterly when they saw they were discovered. Would you like to see them?' 'Cover them up again with straw and leave them alone,' was the reply of the lieutenant. It is, however, astonishing where all the people can have got to. Many, as I before said, have hidden themselves in the woods, but all of them could not have sheltered there, and if they have gone on to Paris they will largely increase the consumption of provisions."

JULES FAVRE AND COUNT BISMARCK.—On the 19th, about two p.m., passers-by near the village of Couilly would have seen a remarkable sight. A carriage, plain but elegant, with two fine horses, conveyed Jules Favre and a Prussian officer, who had escorted him through the lines, towards Meaux. The representative and head of the French Republic was coming himself to try the effect of a personal interview in negotiation. He had expected to meet Count Bismarck at Meaux, where rooms had been ordered for him the day before. But the King's move yesterday upset this calculation, and the two high contracting parties crossed each other on the road. The great Count, the arbiter of the destinies of Europe at this moment, is as modest and practical as he is powerful. No sooner had he heard that M. Jules Favre had passed eastward, while he was travelling west, than, without ceremony, he turned his horse's head, and attended only by his aide-de-camp and nephew, Count Bismarck-Bonin, and one dragon orderly, galloped back to overtake him. The white cap and yellow band that your war correspondents describe as surmounting the portly form and massive head of the cuirassier-diplomatist were seen pounding along in a cloud of dust towards Couilly. The road was all blocked with Württemberg provision trains and reserve ammunition. Steadily the Count held on his way, lines of perspiration coursing down his cheeks, attesting at once the heat of the day and the energy of the man. At

a little wayside cottage the Count's pursuit ended. Jules Favre was brought to bay. Dismounting and retiring to this house, it is said, both entered on their important business.—*Letter from the Prussian Camp.*

A DESERTED VILLAGE NEAR PARIS.—Corbeil contained some 6,000 inhabitants. I doubt if there are 500 remaining—not only are the shops and houses shut, but many are quite empty. There were several hundreds of German workmen here and their families. They were packed off some ten days or a fortnight ago by the French authorities. The Sous-Prefet has gone to Paris, M. le Maire remains. The hotels are shut, and it is difficult to get even a loaf of bread. There is a crowd of men and women now waiting outside a large building inscribed, "La Bibliothèque Populaire," for a distribution of loaves, as all the bread was carried off by the soldiers this morning. Where are the people gone to? North, south, and west. The well-to-do to the seaside or abroad—the poor to Paris and other large towns. "As you approach Paris you will find every place a desert. You will get nothing to eat." It looks like being true here, but as we came along there were well-stocked farmyards and plenty of hay-ricks and corn-stacks to be seen.—*Dr. Russell in the Times.*

THE SICK AND WOUNDED.

The fund of the National Society is now over 200,000l. In a letter from Colonel Loyd Lindsay it is stated that the North German Ambassador has given permission to the National Society to convey a large store of chloroform through the Prussian lines into the besieged cities, Metz, Strasbourg, and Montmédy. Two officers of rank in the British service will probably be charged with this noble mission. Colonel Lindsay also says that arrangements have been made for sending out a large English ambulance, consisting of twelve wagons, and completely equipped in all respects, under the charge of Dr. Longmore, C.B., Professor of Military Surgery at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

The Irish Ambulance Corps is, it is said, now complete. It is at present limited to 100 men, who will set out in a steamer specially chartered for a French port. Two commodious tents have been provided, and suitably fitted up. Blouses have been made for the volunteers, and flags with the red cross wreathed in shamrocks will give a picturesque and national distinctness to the corps. The French Government telegraph to say that they accept their services with gratitude, and care is to be taken to keep them separate from other bodies. It is not, we are told by the *Nation*, to be in any way mixed up with the bands of "roving Englishmen who, under the pretence of going to relieve the wounded, are merely making a holiday tour about France." Mr. P. J. Smyth, who has interested himself very actively in the movement, has gone as their pioneer to Paris, and having telegraphed his hearty reception by the French representatives, he has since sent from Osen, in Normandy, the following laconic despatch by the electric wire to "—Sullivan, *Nation* office, Dublin":—

Received with enthusiasm. Ories of "Vive l'Irlande!" Hasten the ambulance. Will go to Tours.

The benevolent expedition will start from Dublin in a few days.

The Prussian Government has proposed to the neutral Powers to place henceforth the stipulations of the Geneva Convention under the collective guarantee of all the States which have acceded to it, to prevent belligerent Powers from violating any of the clauses of the Convention. Without this guarantee (it is alleged) it would not be possible for the allied German Governments to maintain the Convention with respect to France, which has acted contrary to its stipulations.

"Asamat Batuk," the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is strongly eulogistic of the conduct and ability of the English surgeons in France. Writing from Balan, he says:—

At Balan the house of the maire, where the ambulance is lodged, stands in the only square of the village, a square in which street-fighting of the most desperate kind was going on for the whole of the day. The doors and walls of the houses are covered with bullet-holes, and all the windows are smashed by these unpleasant invaders. There is not a room in the house where the visit of a dozen of them could not be traced. Both the wounded and the surgeons had there an ample opportunity of studying the comparative efficacy of the chassepot and the needle-gun, for both sent their projectiles into the room alternately, the square having several times passed from the hands of the French into those of the Germans and vice versa. And it was amid this fire that Dr. Frank and Dr. Blewitt had to perform their task, the latter constantly running through the square to fetch various things that were wanted and that were not to be had. Now, one would think, perhaps, that it is from these gentlemen themselves that I learned all this. Nothing of the kind. I could not get a word out of them on the subject, although I spent a couple of days with them, talked about all possible matters, and was shown every detail of their now flourishing establishment. I am proud of having seen such men, still more proud of living in the same country with them, and I have almost forgotten the existence of English statesmen, English tradesmen, and even English rogues. To give you a notion of the amount of work the medical men have to do here even now, at a distance of a fortnight from the day of the battle, it will be enough to say that none of them had during my stay there performed less than six fresh operations a day; and all of those I was present at were performed with all the skill, gentleness, and care for the comfort of the patient that could be wished for. Each of the gentlemen having at least forty or fifty already-operated wounds to attend to, you may see them passing through the following kind of work, as I saw Dr. MacCormac passing within twenty-four hours: he tied up the common carotid artery in the neck for secondary hemorrhage twice, cut

down one subclavian artery for the same cause once, performed amputation of the thigh three times and at the hip-joint once; trephined the skull once, and disarticulated at the shoulder-joint once. If the general reader does not know what the amount and nature of this work implies, his own surgeon will give him a better idea than I should be able to do here.

Unless care be taken (says the *Times*) infinite discredit will be brought on one of the best movements of our time by the conduct of a set of inquisitive idlers, to call them by no worse name. From all sides comes testimony that the Geneva Cross is being abused, and that the philanthropists who hover on the outskirts of the army and round the deserted battle-fields are becoming somewhat of a nuisance. We should not be surprised to hear that strict regulations had been issued from the German head-quarters on this subject, and it is pretty clear that the system needs revision. In some places the badge has been sold publicly in the shops, to be put on by whoever chose to pay for it. In any case it has been almost impossible to prevent persons whose only impulse was curiosity from supplying themselves with the insignia of mercy, and use them for the purpose of passing freely, of getting quarters, transport, and provisions. The fault may be venial, and no doubt the temptation is great; but it is a fault nevertheless, and to a delicate mind there is something repulsive in the notion of sight-seeing and lionising under the fiction of devotedness. There is, it is believed, a worse class still, who visit the battle-fields for what they can get.

A correspondent narrates the following story:—"I am happy to say a severe example has just been made of three Prussians, who came from the town of Düren. It appears that these three ruffians had disguised themselves, two as Johanniter and the third as a clergyman. On the field of the 18th they were observed by a Prussian wounded officer to lean over the bodies of the dead, and to take an unnecessarily long time over places where no assistance was required. He watched them carefully, until a sharp cry of pain left him in no doubt as to their horrible errand. They leant over a man who evidently refused to permit them to take from him the things so dear to the dying soldier—perhaps the portrait of his wife and mother—perhaps the few rings that brought to his memory the faces of his children whom he was never more to behold. The wounded officer drew his revolver and hit one of the wretches; the report drew the attention of some army policemen, who, hastening to the spot, secured the three inhuman brutes. Their knives were red with the blood of their victims, and I am happy to say, the shrift was short and their punishment summary."

A collection made at the Clapham Congregational Church (Rev. J. G. Rogers) on Sunday, the 18th inst., on behalf of the sufferers by the war on the continent, realised the sum of 120*l*.

Twelve ambulance wagons, manufactured in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, are now on the wharf ready for shipment to the seat of war, *vid* Belgium. They are marked with the red cross and the words "Ambulance Anglaise," and are constructed and furnished on the most approved system. Mr. Adam Allohja, principal foreman of the Control Department at Woolwich, will leave in charge of the wagons to-morrow or on Thursday, and will deliver them to Captain Brackenbury.

LONDON DEMONSTRATIONS IN FAVOUR OF FRANCE.

A crowded meeting was held at St. James's Hall on Saturday evening, to urge the Government to recognise the French Republic, and to protest against the continuance of the war. Mr. Congreve was in the chair, and the principal speakers were Colonel Dickson, Mr. Bradlaugh, Professor Beesly, Sir Henry Hoare, M.P., and Mr. Odger. Mr. H. Richard, Mr. O. Gilpin, Sir Charles Dilke, Professor Fawcett, Mr. P. A. Taylor, Sir Henry Hoare, and Mr. John Stuart Mill had all, it was stated, been asked to attend, but Sir Henry Hoare was the only one who had accepted the invitation. Mr. Taylor had excused himself on the ground of illness, and the others had not answered. Professor Beesly said that his interpretation of the extraordinary alliance of the Government at the present time was that we had a Government who did not know their own mind. The Government, on this and all other questions, had neither principle nor policy of their own, but lived in a "hand-to-mouth" sort of way, their only anxiety being to get through one session of Parliament after another as soon as possible, and when they were questioned as to their policy they looked to a number of anonymous journalists to tell them. The Government, Mr. Beesly went on to say, had not moved because no opinions had been offered, and he pointed out that Mr. Mill, Professor Fawcett, and the metropolitan members who usually gave opinions, were silent now too, and remained away from platforms. As public men had, he said, abstained from giving the people their advice, the people should give their public men their advice. An address to Mr. Gladstone was adopted, calling upon the Government to recognise the French Republic, and to "take the initiative, with the other Great Powers, in the office of mediators between the conquerors and the defeated, so that no stipulation dishonourable to the people of France may impede the signature of an immediate armistice." A resolution protesting against any territorial spoliation of France, and a congratulatory address to the French people on the position taken by M. Jules Favre in his second circular, were also adopted.

The Republican demonstration in Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon in favour of the French Republic was a much larger gathering than the one which previously took place, but the procession is said to have been very weak. It consisted of bands of music, men carrying Red Republican banners, and others

representing victors with red comforters tied round their waists in the fashion of the French Republicans of the Reign of Terror, and carrying imitation fasces. In moving through the streets the procession was joined by mobs of ragged boys, and subsequently by bodies said to be Italian and French Republicans. The red, green, and white tricolour of Italy was conspicuous among the wholly red banners, as was one bearing the stars and stripes of America. Before the procession arrived in the park, two men had planted an harmonium under one of the trees, and the "Marseillaise" was sung with the aid of the harmonium much in the style of a psalm tune. Under another tree a man offered for sale a paper which was the only organ, he said, for smashing up kings and queens. When the procession halted at the centre clump of trees the speaking began at various "platforms," so as to divide the crowd. The speeches were very much like those which have been delivered at other Republican meetings recently, and the resolutions were four in number. The first set forth that in the opinion of the Republicans in London, the people of France had done themselves honour by declaring a Republic, which was the only form of Government by which perfect justice could be vouchsafed to any people. The second resolution demanded an immediate recognition of the French Republic by the British Government, and announced the determination of the Republicans of London to use their utmost efforts to "compel" the Government to do "this their duty." The third resolution called upon the Government to use their best efforts to prevent the dismemberment of France, and the fourth empowered the chairman to send the resolutions to Mr. Gladstone. The speaking went on till after dusk, and most of the respectable people before that time had departed. As the evening closed in, indications were not wanting that the "rough" elements in the throng were desirous of using the opportunity for their own particular purposes. When the bands moved off attempts were made to chant the "Marseillaise" in English. The Irish demonstration which was announced did not take place, but was merged in the other meeting.

Mr. George Odger has received from M. Jules Favre a reply to the address from the working men of London, presented in Paris on Saturday last. M. Favre desires that we should understand that the French have always hated war, that they love Germany, and that, if she would be just to them, and not impose humiliating and ruinous terms, she would find them ready to forget the hatred which has been kindled with such fatal results.

Mr. George Odger and Mr. William Trant had, it appears, considerable difficulty in getting back to England after their recent visit to Paris to present an address to M. Jules Favre. At Oissel, a small village on the Seine, about nine miles from Elbeuf, they had to wait two hours for the train, and, as they were walking along the banks of the river, they were surrounded by a mob, who arrested them as Prussian spies, and marched them off to the house of the chief constable, where they were searched. The mob, however, declared that passports, letters, and documents were all forged, and persistently asserted that they had seen Messrs. Odger and Trant loitering about the place the whole of the day in a variety of disguises. A large and excited crowd had by this time completely surrounded the building, and there is little doubt that Mr. Odger and his friend would have been lynched had it not been for the kind offices of a gentleman who was visiting the town, and who seemed to have some power over the people. Messrs. Odger and Trant arrived in London at one p.m. on Wednesday, having been three nights out of bed, and one part of the journey twenty-four hours without food.

FRENCH APPEAL TO ENGLISH PROTESTANTS.

Pastor Bersier, a well-known Protestant minister in Paris, addresses an appeal to English Protestants through the *English Independent*. The following is an extract:—"There is one thing which I can assert in honour of French Protestants. They have unanimously opposed and blamed this war. The Sunday after the declaration of the war I did not hesitate from the pulpit to designate it a 'guerre insensée.' Our Evangelical journals all spoke in the same tone. But leaving this, look at our present situation. We have been defeated, utterly defeated, by the improvidence, folly, and levity of our generals, and by the corruption of the Emperor. I add, speaking solemnly before God, that we have deserved to be smitten. God has humbled and chastened us in the manner in which we ought to have been. Our levity, our frivolity, our ignorance with respect to a foreign nation—all these have been clearly revealed. 'There has been in this a Divine disposition, and he is blind who does not see it. France, smitten to the dust, begins to see it. Never have churches been filled with crowds more deeply moved. Be sure of this—there is in France a Christian people which bends the knee and which confesses its sin before God. But since the defeat at Sedan, has not this war changed its character? France desires peace; it asks it at the cost of the heaviest sacrifices. There is only one point upon which it cannot yield—that is, the integrity of its soil. What! that we should abandon our dear and heroic Alsace at the very moment when it shows itself so resolutely French? Never! never! I—a man of peace—I would rather cut off my right hand than sign an agreement like that. We will die rather than perpetrate that baseness. Why should not Prussia consent to sign a treaty of peace? Can it allege a single sincere and worthy reason for continuing this frightful butchery? Is not the unity of Germany constituted? Has not the King of Prussia gained at Sedan the most splendid triumph he can desire? Does not France consent to

pay heavily the expenses of the war? Has not France a desire for peace and stability?"

I affirm it openly, with the deepest convictions of my soul and conscience, to-day the right is with us; also firmly, and without exaltation of feeling, I affirm I am ready to die for the defence of Paris, and I pray God that I may do my duty to the end. It is repeated continually that Prussia is a great Protestant power. What matters it, if the crushing success of its armies beats back the civilisation of the world for half a century? What, are there some English Protestants who applaud this theocratic style of politics, which makes the King of Prussia 'the anointed of the Lord,' and the German people the Israel of God? It is this deplorable confusion of religion and politics which is now commended and approved? Let there be no confusion. Germany is a great, glorious, and religious nation. I have always thought it to be such. But from Frederick to Bismarck it has followed a policy unscrupulous, sceptical, and often cynical. Berlin is of all the capitals of Europe the one from which religious life is most conspicuously absent, and where scepticism has made its worst ravages.

"One day England will know what it has cost her to have abandoned France; for myself, feeling and confessing with a broken heart the faults of my country, I love her to-day with a more ardent affection than ever! No; God has not abandoned her. By the severity of the strokes by which He strikes her I measure the greatness of His compassion for her. God will save her; but I could have wished, I confess it, that England had aided in her salvation."

THE HOME SECRETARY ON THE WAR.

Mr. Bruce addressed a meeting of his Renfrewshire constituents on Monday in the Trade Hall, Glasgow. Speaking of the war, the right hon. gentleman said that we had the highest interest in seeing that the peace which should be made should be a stable peace, and that could only be if it was framed on just and considerate principles. There was now but little danger of Germany not fulfilling her long-cherished wish of political unity, but in doing so circumstances had brought about a state of danger to France which all Englishmen looked at, not only with the purest possible interest, but with the greatest possible sympathy towards that country. "Whatever we may think of the policy of France," Mr. Bruce said, "I am sure there is but one feeling at this moment towards that country; and that is, that her wounds may be healed as soon as possible, and that her humiliation may not be greater than that which the circumstances of the case have rendered but too inevitable. Into the terms upon which peace may be made it would be premature for me to enter, but I cannot myself abstain from expressing my earnest hope that these may be so moderate as not to sow the seeds of future war." Mr. Bruce went on to say that he was not one of those who could discover in the present state of things any such immediate or pressing danger to this country as should lead us suddenly to change our system, or to rush into rash resolution. When France was a great military and naval Power, there undoubtedly existed a certain amount of danger, but France would have enough to do for many a year to come to repair the injury she has received in this war. The Prussian armies undoubtedly were so strong that at this moment we could hardly meet them upon equal terms in the field; but how was Prussia to transport her army here? How is she to reinforce it and to supply it with all the ponderous metal of war without which no army can move? The thing itself hardly required arguing, and it therefore seemed to Mr. Bruce that, while we should wisely turn to account the experience which we have gained during these last weeks, time enough is before us to enable us to do so cautiously. The questions raised, the right hon. gentleman said, are of the greatest importance. "There are at present before us three systems from which to choose—the system of conscription in France, and men sent into the army for a certain period of service; the German system, by which every citizen is forced to take a portion of military duty upon himself in the course of his life; and our own system, depending mainly upon the voluntary devotion of our countrymen. Now you cannot deal upon the same principle with forces so differently constituted. Take the volunteer system. We have some 180,000 volunteers, men who have devoted themselves patriotically to the service of their country, but if you mean to apply to them such stringent regulations as would alone make them a force equal in efficiency to the Landwehr of Germany, we must call upon them for sacrifices of time, and more than time, which it is very hard indeed to require from volunteers. I have no doubt, myself, that as this subject is more studied by the volunteers they will show themselves more and more ready to undergo obligations which perhaps at this moment might be repugnant to them, and I quite admit that if no arrangement can be made with the volunteers by which we can ultimately depend upon the efficiency of the force in case of invasion, it may be necessary to recognise the whole of the question, and to put our defences on a more permanent footing. But I am sure you will agree with me that it is not until every expedient has been exhausted that we should do away with a force raised under remarkable circumstances, and so creditable to the patriotism and honour of the country as the volunteer force; therefore I am of opinion that though Mr. Cardwell may be charged with proceeding slowly in creation of a great reserve force, he is justified by the circumstances in doing so, and that a great change might have the effect of undoing that which has added so much to the

strength of the country in the eyes of all Europe during past times; I mean that display of volunteer zeal in arming for defence of the country." At the close of Mr. Bruce's address, the right hon. gentleman was awarded a vote of confidence and of thanks for his services.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An agitation has commenced in North Germany for the abrogation of the 5th clause in the Treaty of Prague, which stipulates for the annexation of North Schleswig to Denmark.

The Russians, it is reported, are strengthening their garrisons in Poland and Volhynia. Seven divisions of infantry have been sent to the province of Kieff to line the Galician frontier.

An order has appeared in the German *Official Journal* authorising the organisation "at once and definitively" of a postal service in the territory now under the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of Alsace and German Lorraine.

Admiral Fourichon, the new Minister of Marine, has ordered that the names of the following yachts—Prince Impérial, Prince Jérôme, Empress Eugénie, Jérôme Napoléon, and Queen Hortense—should be henceforth called Jupiter, Roche, Turenne, Desaix, and Kleber.

A member of the house of Messrs. H. Piper and Co., of Rheims, who has just arrived in London, having passed through the Prussian lines with a safe-conduct from General von Roon, states that both Rheims and Eprenay are perfectly tranquil. So strict is the Prussian discipline that ten or twelve of their soldiers who had been found pilfering articles of private property were instantly shot.

A letter from Vienna in the *Cologne Gazette* says that owing to the warm recognition by the German press of the attitude of the Austrian papers, the German sympathies of the people have been still more powerfully excited. Demonstrations have lately occurred in the German districts of Austria in favour of a reconstruction of Germany, or rather the participation of Austria in this great work. Even German members of the Reichsrath anticipate this as the issue of the war.

THE IMPERIAL PAPERS.—The *Progrès* of Lyons publishes details about the papers found at the Préfecture du Rhône. About 1,500 orders to arrest citizens of Lyons, with their names, and only the dates to be filled up, ready signed by the prefect, have been discovered. It is asserted that these orders were prepared with a view to a *coup d'état*, agreed upon by the Emperor, Rouher, and Oussagnac during their interview at Chalons. This *coup d'état* was to take place after the first success of MacMahon, which was counted upon as certain, and to be ratified by a plébiscite in the old style, to liquidate the entire past. M. Piétri showed more foresight than his ex-colleague of Lyons. M. de Kératry discovered, after having taken possession of the Préfecture de Police, in one of the courtyards a layer of paper ashes about sixty centimetres in depth.

FRENCH PROTESTANT APPEAL.—The *Temps* publishes an eloquent address from the pastors of the Protestant churches in Paris to their brethren in Germany, urging them to promote peace. The following passage occurs in this document:—"All is changed since the thunderbolt which has destroyed a throne and annihilated a power, of which we forbear to speak since it is fallen; let us leave it to the justice of God. The King of Prussia, on the eve of engaging in the present struggle, had solemnly declared that he knew how to distinguish between France and the Empire. The Empire is no more. Germany now finds herself opposed to a new power, which repudiates the motives that the fallen Government assigned to the war. It follows that Germany by continuing it would no longer wage a political war to protect such and such an interest of major importance, but a war of vengeance and conquest." This address is signed by twenty-six pastors.

GERMAN EXILES IN SWITZERLAND.—A Swiss correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* says:—"More than 20,000 Germans, driven out of France, have passed through Switzerland during the last week, all very well received by the population, and partly cared for at the expense of the Confederation, of the cantons, or of private persons. The greater number have passed by Neuchâtel, among others an old woman 106 years of age, who had lived in Paris since she was fifty-two years old. All these emigrants are not exclusively Germans; among them there are many Hungarians, Austrians, and German-speaking Swiss. A friend of mine who has lived in France nearly twenty years, being concerned in a great manufacturing establishment, and having married a Frenchwoman, was first expelled from Strasbourg on the 1st of August, then from Saint Etienne, where he was in business, because his life was in danger there. Yet he had always lived on the best terms with his French neighbours. These facts, which have been unfortunately reproduced throughout France, . . . have created a most painful impression in Switzerland."

ALLEGED SALES OF ARMS TO FRANCE.—Mr. Goodman, the chairman of the Birmingham Small-Arms Company, entirely disposes of the statement by the *Daily News* as to the scale on which the exportation of arms to France is being carried on. At the outbreak of the war, he says, the number of breech-loading rifles in the hands of English manufacturers did not exceed 20,000; and this number has not, up to the present time, been exceeded by more than a few hundreds. About 15,000 or 16,000 have been shipped abroad; but 2,620 of them could not have been intended for France, as they were sent to Rotterdam. With regard to chassepôts, a lot of

11,000 which was made three years ago for Japan was bought up in London and exported to France; but that was on the 18th of July. Of Martini's, needle-guns, and Remingtons, there are no supplies in England available for military service; and as to orders in course of execution, Mr. Goodman states that "the two small-arms companies of Birmingham and London are engaged in making supplies of arms for our own Government; but neither of them has now any order from the French Government or from any one on their behalf, either directly or indirectly."

THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF THE WAR.—A committee of ladies has been formed for the benefit of the widows and orphans left destitute by the war. The committee earnestly hope that "the women of a country where the blessings of peace and the happiness of unbroken family ties are still preserved will be ready to extend their active sympathy to the widows and orphans of Germany and France, who mourn the loss of husbands and fathers in their now desolate and unprovided homes." The following ladies at present form the association, with power to add to their numbers and form branch committees in the country. Contributions for this special object may be paid to the ladies of the association whose names are marked with an asterisk (*), and to Messrs. Ransome, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East:—Lady Lyell, 73, Harley-street, W.; Miss Florence Nightingale; the Hon. Mrs. Cowper-Temple, 17, Curzon-street, Mayfair; Mrs. Lyell, 42, Regent's Park-road; Mrs. W. Wilson, 24, Park-square, Regent's Park, N.W.; Miss Shepley, 24, Park-square, Regent's Park, N.W.; *Mrs. Alexandre von Glehn (*née* Monod), Sydenham; Mlle. Louise Appia, Oakfield, Hampstead, N.W. Trainers:—*Mrs. Russell Gurney, 8, Kensington Palace-gardens; *Mrs. Silia Schwabe, 8, Clarges-street, Piccadilly, W.

THE ARREST OF HERR JACOBY.—What asks the *Spectator*, is the Prussian home administration thinking of? Here is the celebrated old Democrat, Herr Jacoby, who was so often elected by Berlin, arrested at Königsberg, and imprisoned "by order," it is said, of "the Council of War," whatever that may be, for a most sensible and temperate statement of the reasons against the forcible annexation of Alsace and Lorraine to Germany contrary to the will of the people of these provinces! Herr Jacoby had asked whether the people of Alsace and Lorraine are mere "soulless chattels, of whom we may take possession without any form or ceremony," carrying the Königsberg meeting unanimously with him, and by way of reply he is himself thrown into prison. Apart from the tyranny and injustice of this policy, is it possible that the Prussian Government is not sensible of this enormous advantage to be gained by its victories, that for the future it may afford to let the ultra-Liberals talk as they please without wounding them into a solid mass by persecution? There is little danger, we fear, of Herr Jacoby finding many enthusiastic crowds of German listeners, if he were allowed to say what he likes on behalf of the freedom of Alsace and Lorraine. But there is danger that if these petty tyrannies are pursued, his influence may soon return, and return at a time when the Prussian Government, no longer clothed in the halo of great victories, will be compelled to fear for its own power.

THE DISTRESSED PEASANTRY OF NORTH-EASTERN FRANCE.—A touching appeal has been published from the mayors and curés of French villages over which the torrent of war has swept. "In the sections of the country that have been traversed by the German armies," say these trustworthy witnesses, "nothing remains of the provisions that had been accumulated in time of peace. Our houses, stables, and barns are burned or riddled with cannon-shots. The fields and meadows are trampled down by the tread of embattled hosts. Neither cereals nor grass have been harvested this autumn. All our beasts of burden, all our bees, sheep, and swine have been taken from us. Our labourers are either pressed into the French army as soldiers, or into the German army as tent-makers. There remains not even seed-corn. We are destitute of strength to prepare the trampled ground for next season's harvest; destitute of material to sow; destitute, in many places, of ground to sow upon; as miles upon miles of territory are made inviolable by the plough, by reason of the sacred and terrible seed of human corpses with which they have been sown. Starvation stares us in the face now; famine and pestilence are the legacies which war will surely leave to us for the coming winter and spring." The *Daily News* has consented to receive and superintend the transmission of the sums which the benevolent may be disposed to contribute towards the mitigation of this lamentable destitution, 250*l.* has already been sent to the British Minister at Brussels.

The oak trees are this year loaded with acorns, and the farmers declare the crop to be the best known for many years. It is said to be an omen of a coming hard winter. [These omens are pointed out every year.]

The following hard-shell story comes to us vouched for by an ear-witness. Elder C—, a Baptist minister in South-eastern Indiana, made in a sermon not long ago, the following statement, using it as an illustration of the subject in hand:—"Queen Victoria, when she desired to take a husband, was prevented, by an ancient law of the realm, from going beyond the precincts of her own nation; but was not prevented from reaching across the narrow channel which intervened between England and Wales, and joining hands with Albert the Prince of Wales."—*New York Independent*.

Foreign and Colonial.

ITALY AND ROME.

On Tuesday, last week, five divisions of the Italian troops under General Cadorna opened operations against Rome, which the Papal soldiery persisted in holding, though their infallible ruler had ordered them to lay down their arms. For four hours the mutinous Zouaves stood to their posts; but at ten in the forenoon the Italian troops forced an entrance near Fort Pia. The defenders then hoisted white flags on all the forts and batteries, at length obeying the reiterated orders of the Holy Father; and negotiations for a capitulation were begun. The losses on the side of the Italians were inconsiderable. Very few of the Pontifical troops were killed, and only fifty-five men were wounded. The *Daily News* correspondent with the Italian army has sent the following despatch by courier from Rome to Florence:—"I entered the city with the assaulting column. Four of our men were killed; thirty wounded. The Papal troops were protected by a strong position. Ten minutes after the breach had been carried a white flag was displayed from Monte Cavallo. Immediately after arrived a deputation from the diplomatic corps in their own carriages, escorted by the Pope's Dragoons."

General Cadorna made his entry into Rome amidst immense enthusiasm. The city is to be divided into five military zones. General Cadorna will represent Republican and Papal insurgents. The Pope keeps the Palatine. An Italian bodyguard will be placed at his service. Garibaldi remains unmolested at Caprera. The plebiscite for the Roman people is fixed for the 2nd of October.

A despatch from Rome of the 22nd says:—"The Pontifical army, 8,000 strong, have marched out with the honours of war. General Cadorna sent some battalions into the Leonine city, at the reiterated and personally expressed desire of the Pope. General Cadorna reminded the Pope that General Kanisher had declared that the safety of His Holiness would be sufficiently insured by his personal guard, and made special reservations respecting the continuance of the occupation. The Pope appears to have determined to remain in the city. Order is perfect."

A despatch of the 24th says:—"All the political prisoners in Rome have been set free. Petroni after seventeen years' confinement. The Bersaglieri occupy the gardens of the Vatican. A great popular meeting has been held in the Coliseum to nominate a Provisional Government. General La Marmora has arrived at Rome as Royal Commissioner. General Cadorna has selected eighteen citizens to form a Provisional Government of Rome."

The surrender of Rome gave rise to great rejoicings in Italy. A Florence telegram of Wednesday says:—"In Florence there is a perfect *fête*. The national colours are flying from the municipal and government palaces, and almost all private houses, and the bells are ringing peals of joy. Large crowds of people, headed by bands playing martial music, are marching through the streets, continually shouting, 'Rome, the capital of Italy!' The King, the army, and the soldiers are all in turn the objects of the most enthusiastic patriotic manifestations. The Municipal Palace and several private palaces have been illuminated."

A general political amnesty is looked for immediately. Garibaldi, contrary to the reports generally current, seems to be always at Caprera. The Government resists his departure. The meeting of the Italian Parliament will take place on Oct. 10.

M. Senard, the French Minister at Florence, has addressed to Signor Visconti-Venosta, in the name of the Provisional Government, the warmest congratulations on the Italian occupation of Rome. In his letter M. Senard contrasts the hopeful condition of the Italian kingdom with the painful circumstances of France.

A despatch from Rome of the 23rd says:—"The escutcheons of the Foreign Legations at Rome being united with the Pontifical escutcheons, the people threatened to pull them down. This was done at the Palace of the Portuguese Legation. General Cadorna hastened to give satisfactory explanations to the Portuguese Minister, and to take measures to prevent a renewal of these disorders. A proclamation of General Cadorna requests the population to cease these violent demonstrations, as they are calculated to disturb public order."

A despatch from Rome, dated Monday, says:—

Perfect order prevails here. The promenade of the Pincio is enormously crowded. Many carriages have been passing along, conveying Monsignori and Cardinals to the Vatican. The Italian troops, as they passed, rendered them honour by presenting arms. The Holy Father is at once astonished and satisfied with the behaviour of the Royal troops since they entered the city; and he will drive to-morrow through the streets of Rome. Cardinal Patrizi has openly expressed the opinion that he never saw more religious troops than the Italian. Rome is governed by the Communal Council. Both foreigners and Romans are struck by the fact that the transition from the old to the new system should have occurred with so little disturbance of order.

General Cadorna has nominated eighteen citizens to form a Provisional Government; and at the first meeting of the members on Saturday addressed them in these terms:—"You are called to fulfil a sublime task. The 20th of September marks a great epoch in your mission, and inaugurates a new era in Italian unity, which, when finally completed, will constitute Rome again the capital of the kingdom. God manifestly blesses Italy."

A Brussels journal recommends all Catholics to sign petitions to their respective Governments, calling on them not to recognise what has taken place

in Italy, and to issue a combined manifesto against the annexation of Rome.

A letter in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of the 12th, gives some particulars relative to the failure of Count San Martino's mission to the Pope before the Italian troops crossed the frontier:—

The Holy Father refused to entertain any of the propositions of which he was the bearer. Nevertheless, His Holiness received him with courtesy, and read in his presence the letter he brought from Victor Emmanuel, as well as the project it enclosed, and which comprised thirteen articles. These articles guarantee the independence of the Chief of the Church, investing him with the sovereignty of the Leonine city, declaring his person sacred, and granting him an annual allowance of ten million crowns. The Pope is to be secured also in the enjoyment of the ecclesiastical estates, and will be permitted to retain a native guard, but not to maintain foreign troops. The convents of Rome are to be left unmolested, and the expenses of public worship will be fixed by decree. As the Holy Father read the project, he exclaimed at the end of each article, "No, no! never!" Finally, he told the Count that he would make no concession whatever to Italy, but would, as a temporal sovereign, resist by force the invading army. The Count entreated him to avoid such a useless effusion of blood, and, after exhausting argument, even resorted to threats; but the Holy Father was inflexible. To the Count's demand that the castle of St. Angelo (the Tomb of Hadrian), which stands in the Leonine city, should be demolished—a stipulation not included in the thirteen articles—he cried out, "Why, you are Vandals!" The Count urged that he spoke for twenty-four millions of Italians, when the Holy Father exclaimed, "Say four millions; the twenty millions are with me." Then, raising the King's letter, he said, "I will reply to the King both as a Pontiff and a Sovereign." He bowed to the envoy, and added, "I am no prophet, nor the son of a prophet, but I tell you you shall never possess Rome." The same day the Holy Father held an extraordinary convocation of Cardinals, at which, after a discussion of some hours, the terms of the answer to the King's letter were agreed on. The Pope simply denounces the invasion as an aggressive and iniquitous act, and lays upon the King the responsibility for the blood it will cause to flow. This reply was despatched to Count San Martino at the Hotel Minerva, and he instantly arranged for his departure. I may mention that he was provided with a letter of credit on Spada, Flamini and Co. for 50,000*fr.*, possibly as a fund for distribution, but he left Rome without drawing a franc.

The following is the text of a letter from Victor Emmanuel to the Pope:—

Most Holy Father.—With the affection of a son, with the faith of a Catholic, with the loyalty of a King, with the feelings of an Italian, I address myself once more, as I have done before, to the heart of your Holiness. A storm full of danger threatens Europe. Under cover of the war which is desolating the centre of the continent, the party of cosmopolitan revolution is gaining in boldness and audacity, and is preparing, especially in Italy and in the provinces under the Government of Your Holiness, to deliver a final blow at the Monarchy and the Papacy.

I know, Most Holy Father, that the greatness of your soul is such that it will never give way to the greatness of events; but I, a Catholic and Italian King, and as such the responsible guardian—by the disposition of Divine Providence and by the will of the nation—of the destinies of all Italians, feel it my duty to take on myself, in face of Europe and the Catholic world, the responsibility of maintaining order in the Peninsula, and the security of the Holy See.

Besides, Most Holy Father, the state of feeling among the populations governed by your Holiness, and the presence among them of foreign troops come from various places and with various intentions, constitute a hotbed of agitation and evident dangers for all. Chance, and the effervescence of passion may lead to acts of violence, and to an effusion of blood, which it is my duty and yours, Most Holy Father, to avoid and prevent.

I see the inevitable necessity, for the security of Italy and the Holy See, that my troops, already posted to guard the frontier, should advance and occupy such positions as may be requisite for the security of your Holiness and the maintenance of order.

Your Holiness will not, I hope, see any act of hostility in this measure of precaution.

My Government and my forces will confine themselves solely to the duty of guardians of the rights of the Roman people, and the inviolability of the Sovereign Pontiff and his spiritual authority, with the independence of the Holy See—things quite compatible with one another.

If your Holiness, as I do not doubt, and as your sacred character and your goodness of heart give me the right to hope, be inspired by a desire equal to my own to avoid all conflict, and to escape the peril of violence, you could arrange with Count Ponza di San Martino, the bearer of this letter, who is furnished with the instructions deemed opportune by my Government, the means which appear best fitted to conduce to that end.

Your Holiness will permit me yet to hope that the present moment, as solemn for Italy as for the Church and for the Papacy, will render active that spirit of benevolence which has never been extinguished in your heart, towards that land which is also your country, and the sentiments of conciliation which I have always studied with indefatigable perseverance to carry into action, in order that while satisfying the national aspirations, the Chief of Catholicism, surrounded by the devotion of the Italian peoples, should preserve upon the banks of the Tiber a position glorious and independent of all human sovereignty.

Your Holiness, in freeing Rome from foreign troops, in removing the constant peril of its becoming a battlefield of revolutionary parties, will have accomplished a marvellous work, given peace to the Church, and shown to Europe, horrified by the terrors of war, how it is possible to gain great battles and to win immortal victories by an act of justice and by one single word of affection.

I beg your Holiness to bestow upon me the Apostolic benediction, and I renew to your Holiness the expression of my profound respect.

Your Holiness's most humble, most obedient, and most devoted son,
Florence, 8th Sept. VICTOR EMMANUEL.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

President Grant appears to have succeeded in finding a successor to Mr. Motley as American Minister in London. The gentleman who has accepted the office is Senator Morton, of Indiana.

A telegram from Madrid says that considerable excitement exists in Barcelona on account of the yellow fever. There have been 1,000 attacks, and from 300 to 400 deaths since the introduction of the disease.

The *Boston Commonwealth* states that Mr. Thomas Hughes, who is the guest of James Russell Lowell, at Elmwood, his Cambridge residence, is besieged with letters from all parts of the United States asking him to lecture. It is announced that Mr. Hughes is unable to comply with any of these requests.

YELLOW FEVER AT BARCELONA.—Great alarm prevails at Barcelona in consequence of the outbreak of yellow fever. There have been already about 1,000 attacks, one-third of which have proved fatal since its introduction, as it is supposed, from the Cuban steamer Maria.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—The *Boston Journal* says:—"Miss A. P. Ladd, of Augusta, Maine, has been appointed by the Governor and Council a Justice of the Peace and Quorum." This is believed to be the first appointment of a lady to this office in New England, and perhaps in the United States east of Wyoming Territory.

SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.—The scheme for the gradual extinction of slavery in the Empire of Brazil, prepared by a committee appointed for the purpose by the Government, has been promulgated. Its chief feature is that all children born after a date to be announced in an Imperial decree issued upon the scheme becoming law shall be considered free. The bill framed on the report of the committee is expected to occupy the greater part of the next session of the Brazilian Chambers.

DISCOVERY OF DIAMOND MINES AT THE CAPE.—The diamond-fields of the Vaal were turning out very rich, and from every town and village in South Africa people were leaving for the diggings, and the greatest excitement prevailed. President Parker, of the Free State, is reported to have said, on the 4th of August, that within ten days the diggings would be proclaimed a "Free Republic." At the latest dates a rush was being made to the old mission station of Hebron. It was reported that nineteen diamonds had been discovered by one man in a short space of time, and that others had been most fortunate. The Pniel diggings were proving a most wonderful success, seventy-five diamonds having been found in one week, one of them a forty-three-carat gem, and it is said that already stones to the value of 80,000*fr.* have been secured and shipped homewards.

THE FUTURE OF GERMANY.—We may venture to anticipate that the scheme of Germany's reorganisation will have for its basis the constitution of a single Federal Parliament for North and South alike, into which the present Customs Parliament will be merged. There will be, no doubt, a single army for all Germany, under the command of the Sovereign of Prussia, a common diplomatic representation, and a single Federal Budget. Bavaria, in right of her population and her importance, will probably require a proportion of votes at the Federal Council Board larger than any other State, except Prussia, and she may, for reasons of dignity rather than convenience, seek to be allowed separate diplomatic representation at Paris, Vienna, and whatever building or institution may hereafter stand as the Papal Court. But we believe there will be no difficulty on the part of the associated German States in assenting to these exceptional conditions; while, on the other hand, Bavaria, Saxony, Wurtemberg, and Baden are all equally willing to become members of a Federation under the leadership of Prussia. Of course, each State will retain its local self-government, and its local diet. Thus the old *Staaten-Bund* is quietly to be transformed into a *Bundes-Staat*. It will, in fact, be a Federal system like that of America or Switzerland, only that each separate State will have a King for its governor or chief magistrate.—*Daily News*.

GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA.—The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The Roman Catholic Bishop at Batang, on the confines of Thibet, China, and Burmah, sends to India a terrible account of an earthquake in that region, affecting an area of 180 by 90 miles. The event occurred on the 11th of April, and his last letter is dated the 30th of May. Considering that the missionaries there can communicate only by Shanghai, the transit of the letters has been rapid. Last year, it may be remembered, there was a very destructive earthquake in the adjoining British district of Cachar. A shock at five in the morning and a stronger shock at noon were followed at sunset by an earthquake, which levelled the whole town, and killed or bruised half the population. The missionaries escaped to their garden, and only one of their servants perished. The 'large and splendid' Lamaseri, inhabited by 3,000 Lamas, fell with a crash. The Chinese official reports, which Dr. Chauveau tells us are a little exaggerated, estimate the loss of human life at 113 Lama priests, 57 soldiers, and 2,812 'common people.' A series of earthquake shocks were felt as far as Pung-hong-tang, the place at which Mr. T. T. Cooper met Ser Ruggut Sing, the Nepalese Ambassador, in 1868. The village and many others are destroyed, and so many of the authorities and the soldiers have been buried under the ruins of their houses that 'robbers, like wild beasts, run everywhere.' To conclude in the bishop's own words, 'the Imperial highway from Peking to Lhasa seems, and is said to be now, totally impracticable near Kong-dze-tin by the fall of a mountain and the sudden upheaving of a new one.'

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty and the Court are expected to return from Scotland to the South in the first week of November.

On Saturday the Prince and Princess of Wales dined with the Queen.

Prince Arthur is expected to rejoin his regiment, the Rifle Brigade, at Woolwich, about the middle of October. He will reside at the Ranger's House, Blackheath, from whence he will ride over to his duty every day.

The first Cabinet Council of the season will be held on Friday.

The *Birmingham Post* says:—"We have the pleasure of stating that Mr. Bright, who still resides at Llandudno, is steadily gaining physical strength, and, what in his case is still more important, is now able to bestow some attention on matters that give tone and vigour to his mind. Even in the late rough weather he took his daily ride on horseback, and this wholesome exercise, joined to the long abstinence from intellectual strain, has almost restored him to his wonted strength and energy both of mind and body."

Sir John Young, the Governor-General of Canada, is about to be raised to the Peerage; an honour conferred in consideration of his long and valuable services. The title of the new Peer, we believe, will be Lord Lisgar, of Lisgar and Bailieborough in the county of Cavan.

The death is announced of Mr. John Braithwaite, the civil engineer. From the earliest formation of railways he has been engaged in their construction, both in England and on the continent. He was seventy-three years of age.

THE BABY-FARMING CASE.

The trial of the two women, Waters and Ellis, on several charges of wilful murder, arising out of the extensive system of baby-farming carried on by them at Brixton, commenced on Wednesday at the Central Criminal Court. The case for the Crown is that the prisoners had obtained possession of children on being paid certain sums of money, with a view to hastening their death and so getting rid of them in the shortest possible time.

On Thursday the case for the prosecution was completed, and the Judge having expressed his opinion that there was no evidence against Mrs. Ellis, the jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty." Evidence was then gone into on behalf of Mrs. Waters, which was not concluded when the Court rose. It was resumed on Friday, and Mr. Ribton and Serjeant Ballantine having severally addressed the jury for the defence and for the prosecution, the learned judge, the Lord Chief Baron, summed up. He said the case was undoubtedly one of general interest and importance, not only to the prisoner, but to the inhabitants of the metropolis and to the country at large. The questions he desired the jury to consider were—first, whether the death of this particular child, John Walter Cowen, was caused by the want of sufficient and proper nourishment which the prisoner ought to have supplied, or by the administering of laudanum or any other narcotic by the prisoner or by her directions, or with her concurrence, or by the want of medical attendance which the prisoner ought to have supplied, or by either or all of these cases. If the jury were satisfied upon this point, then the more grave question would arise: Did the prisoner believe that her course of treatment or line of conduct towards this particular child would probably accomplish or accelerate its death? or did she intend by this course of treatment or line of conduct to shorten its life? If they were satisfied on either or both of these points, it would be their duty to find the prisoner at the bar guilty of murder.

The jury returned, after an absence of fifty-five minutes, with a verdict of "Wilful murder."

When the prisoner was called upon she entered into a long rambling statement, asserting that she had treated the children well; and she declared that, although she was now standing on the brink of eternity, she was entirely innocent of the crime of murder.

The Lord Chief Baron, in passing sentence, said that if there was any truth in the statement the prisoner had just made, or if on any other ground she was entitled to a merciful consideration, she must appeal to another tribunal, for he had no power to mitigate the sentence, nor to deal with her otherwise than the law required. He feared, in addition to that poor child, others had become victims to her cruelty and inhumanity. Four, or at least three, of them had been done to death by her. It was necessary that the strong arm of the law should vindicate the justice of the country and take up the case of those poor innocent children. If the prisoner could appeal upon any ground in any hope of relief or mitigation of punishment to any other tribunal, he trusted that the appeal would be heard, and that she would receive that mercy which he had no power to extend. The learned judge then passed sentence of death in the usual form.

While the jury were considering their verdict, Sarah Ellis, the sister of Waters, was brought up, and pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiring to obtain money by false pretences in relation to the children spoken of in the preceding trial. She was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. The Lord Chief Baron ordered Serjeant Relph, the detective, to receive 20*l.* for his services in bringing the prisoners to justice.

Literature.

RATIONALISM OLD AND NEW.*

The Rationalism of the seventeenth century and the Rationalism of our own time have something in common; but in more essential respects they vary; and the general impression derived from such works as those named below is, that that the old Rationalism was more solid, reverent, and respectable than that with which Christianity is now confronted. For one thing, the old-fashioned style did not favour assumptions that destroy the religious sentiment even while exalting a merely poetical and sympathetic one. It was a clear-headed, brave, and unshrinking claim for the exercise of reason in religion; or rather it was a protest against the principle of authority in matters of belief. But as it did not start with foregone conclusions, reason did its work; and it brought home to the mind and heart certain convictions as to its own limits which were, in many respects, salutary. Rationalism was truly a process with men like Hobbes, instead of being an end, as it is with men like Baur, and Strauss, and Renan; and, therefore, we need not be so much surprised as we might otherwise be in finding that Mr. Hunt makes out Hobbes and Lord Herbert of Chesham to have been very good Christians after all, and certainly not unbelievers in any proper sense of the term.

There is one element common to all the later forms of Rationalism, and it is a very insinuating one. This is the desire to establish a ground of reverence for Christianity by wholly absorbing the Divine in the human. It starts with a *suppressio veri*, involving the contradiction that Revelation is wholly and purely human—a necessary outcome of human development. It withdraws God, that the abstract something called humanity may glide into the place of God, and witness to its own apotheosis. But it does all this, while pretending to honour what mankind has hitherto held most sacred; and it professes to widen the sphere for the operation of the religious instincts, even while it is cunningly removing the object of worship out of the way. Baur, with his tendency theory; Strauss, with his mythical theory; and Renan, with his legendary theory, ally themselves by virtue of presenting this note. All make the daring effort to account for Christ and Christianity by merely natural and historical causes—in one word, they wish to make an end of the supernatural in human affairs, by instituting a deification of humanity itself. This might seem flattering to human nature; but it is strange how correctly human nature estimates itself on the whole, and how firmly it declines to have a God foisted upon it in every point like unto itself. It sighs, and searches, and reaches after something higher, purer, nobler, and will not rest with the mere show of satisfaction. And as there seems a need deep implanted in man's heart for some kind of communion with a loving divine person, we need not be surprised at the doubtful and shifting positions which the preachers of such theories are forced to occupy. These anti-supernaturalists confront and contradict each other on the most vital points, and the one surpasses the other in self-contradictions and manoeuvres in "changing the base." By the shifts they are thus put to, they yield an unwilling testimony to the divinity of the Christian Revelation. That a few untrained fishermen should have concocted a system which has through so many centuries defied the scrutiny of the learned, compelling them to fall back on all sorts of extreme positions, and to adopt all sorts of forced arguments, is either a new wonder, or else the doctrine itself is a fresh testimony on their behalf.

Dr. Fisher's book is a learned, calm, and able discussion of this later rationalism. He has brought to the task an acute mind, stored with knowledge. He has also a well-balanced judgment, which enables him to estimate aright the value of his own arguments. This is a third edition of the work—the former two having been exhausted in a very short space of years. We are glad to observe that he has added an Introduction and Notes, and in many ways altered his text, so that the book may now be regarded as complete and, so to say, brought down to the latest date. And certainly the

work deserves the confidence of the American public, as it deserves and demands the attention of students in this country.

After discussing the characteristics of this later scepticism, and expounding the rationale of the pantheistic tendency, Dr. Fisher proceeds to deal in detail with the main points in the theory of Baur, the head of what is known as the Tübingen School. Baur's idea was to find a ground for constraining the various writings of the New Testament by tracing in them the existence of two opposing currents of tendency in the early Christian Church. Christianity was the abolition of Old Testament ritual; but the ideas of the Master were not appropriated fully by all His Apostles. Peter and his party were inclined still to Judaism, whilst Paul and his party, as representing the Gentiles, had freed themselves from the rags of Judaism. Hence arose strifes and efforts at compromise, the bulk of the New Testament writings being the evidences of this. The authenticity of book after book, among others that of the Acts, was impugned; and an attempt made to throw these writings down to a much later date. Baur needs to trace these two tendencies down through later times in order to get correlative grounds for his main position, and accordingly he inconsistently argues, "That a Judaizing party had grown in the Roman Church in the next period after the Apostolic age."

"This," Dr. Fisher holds, "is a declaration made in the face of convincing evidence to the contrary. Baur has contended that the Church of Rome was made up, at the outset, chiefly of Jewish converts. But this proposition is refuted by the complexion of Paul's Epistle to the Romans. The fact of his writing an epistle to this church, which he had not personally planted, and had never visited, is itself a strong presumption that the church was predominantly Gentile. The various expressions in the first chapter, relative to his calling to preach to the Gentiles, and his willingness to fulfil it, even at Rome, would be out of place in an address to born Jews. And how unnatural is the hypothesis that the first eight chapters were written merely to serve as an introduction to the two chapters which follow. The observances of the Roman Church were anti-Jewish. The custom grew up there of fasting on Saturdays, or of continuing the fast of Friday through the following day, whilst Sunday was made a joyous festival. The Roman Church, in the discussions of the Second Century concerning Easter, took ground against conforming to the Jewish Calendar, or continuing the Jewish festivals. These are undeniable facts. They are met by the uncouth conjecture, that they indicate a Pauline reaction against the Judaizing spirit which is assumed to have prevailed before! But this rejoinder is a subterfuge. If arbitrary conjectures of this kind are to pass for evidence, there might as well be an end of historical study."

We have quoted this passage to show at once how arbitrary is Baur's manner of dealing with facts, and how neatly Dr. Fisher disposes of his arguments. And not less conclusively does he charge against Strauss, the aim of whose great work is to prove that, granting a certain historical groundwork, the common myth-making impulse of human nature did all the rest to raise Jesus into the atmosphere of inspiration and miracle. But this is proved to be a stretching of the already too short bed-cover the wrong way; for, in the first place, by no possibility can Strauss make out a sufficiently lengthened period for the myth-making spirit consistently to work out such results, and in the next he is met by the fact that the period was altogether unfavourable to such products. "The myths," writes Mr. Grote, "were generally produced in an age which had no records, no philosophy, no criticism, no canon of belief, and scarcely any tincture of astronomy or geography; but which, on the other hand, was full of religious belief, distinguished for quick and susceptible imagination, seeing personal agents where we only look for objects and laws—an age, moreover, eager for new narrative, accepting with the unconscious impressibility of children (the question of truth or falsehood never being raised) all which ran in harmony with its pre-existing feelings and penetrable by inspired poets and prophets in the same proportion that it was indifferent to positive evidence."

But if we turn to the age of Augustus we find a condition of society the very antipodes of that here described. Instead of being primitive, it is self-conscious and doubtful, instead of being characterised by simplicity, it is artificial in all its ways, instead of being credulous, it is critical and hard to satisfy with evidence. And even in the time of Christ, the Jews were far from being accessible to new influences. Dr. Fisher writes:—

"So far from there being among the Jews in the time of Christ an irresistible tendency to glorify the object of reverence by attributing to him miraculous works, it is a fact, of which the advocates of the mythical theory can give no plausible explanation, that no miracles are ascribed to John the Baptist, though he was considered in the early Church to be inferior to no prophet who had preceded him. If there was this unreflecting and credulous habit which is imputed to the Jewish Christians, why is no instance of miraculous

healing interwoven in the description which the Gospels give us of the career of the forerunner of Jesus? He was supernaturally enabled to designate the Messiah, but he himself, though he is characterised in terms of exalted praise, is not represented as endowed with supernatural power. It is, also, significant that the life of Jesus, up to the time of His entrance upon His public ministry, is left almost unbroken blank. Had the disciples given the reins to their imagination, as the theory of Strauss supposes, they would almost infallibly have filled up the childhood of Christ with myth, after the manner of the spurious Gospels of a later date."

The theory that attributes the wonderful things of the Gospel to the fact that Christ realised the Messianic expectation, is thus summarily disposed of:—

"The Christ in the heavens was raised above the narrow Jewish conception of the Messiah, and their exclusive, carnal theory of His office and relation fell to the ground. . . . It is clear that it was rather the events that suggested to the early disciples the Old Testament passages than the passages that suggested the events. When the events were before them, corresponding predictions were expected and sought for. The interpretation given to Old Testament quotations in the New present difficulties; these, so far from suggesting that the passage created the event, favour the supposition that it was the event that called to mind the passage."

A less amount of space is devoted to Renan's works than to those of Baur and Strauss, and for this circumstance Dr. Fisher gives the following reason:—"It is due partly to the fact that much that might probably be said respecting them is anticipated in the previous essays, and partly to the conviction that their claim to scientific attention is small, compared with that presented in the productions of Baur and Strauss." But the short criticism of Comte is singularly compact and suggestive.

The short chapter on "The Conversion of St. Paul," is a succinct statement of very powerful arguments, some of which have been also very ably used by Professor Stanley Leathes in his recent Boyle lectures. There is likewise not a little of value in the Supplementary Notes, which Professor Fisher has added to this edition. Mr. Deutch's Talmud article in the *Quarterly* does not seem to have so fully satisfied Professor Fisher as it did some other writers nearer home. "One of the latest efforts," he writes, "to detract from the originality of Jesus is founded on researches in the Talmud. A writer in the *Quarterly Review* (No. 246), whose aim seems to be to mystify his readers in regard to the Talmud more than to enlighten them, and whose contributions to our knowledge of the subject are very small when compared with his pretensions, insinuates that 'much of the doctrine of Christ was drawn from the traditional Jewish teaching.' Dr. Fisher then shows how it was impossible Christ could have so borrowed, and makes some further trenchant remarks on Mr. Deutch's article. It is odd to listen to such remarks from America, when it happens that since the appearance of an essay, which Dr. Fisher thus classes with the anti-Christian works of Baur and Strauss, the *Quarterly* has been engaged in scourging the mild and modest author of 'Ecce Homo!'

As the reader will have noticed, the point in Mr. Hunt's book which has most attracted us is his evident sympathy with the English Deists. It is not disguised nor in any way apologised for. Nor does such a procedure seem in any respect needful, inasmuch as Mr. Hunt shows, with considerable conclusiveness, that the deists were, in spite of all that has been said against them, worthy and devout men. His epitome of Hobbes' writings strikes us as very impartial and masterly. Generally Mr. Hunt shows exceptional skill in epitomising doctrines or arguments, and has given us in one volume the record of a very stirring and important period in the history of English theology. Sometimes he errs a little in interweaving remarks of his own with his epitome, so that we do not always at once distinguish between his report and his own words. And this is not a minor fault, as might at first sight appear, for serious differences and difficulties might easily arise out of it. Mr. Hunt says he has striven to be impartial, and he has to a very large extent succeeded, though it is abundantly clear to which side his sympathies lean. He is in favour of progress as against the fetterings of traditional theology; and here we are fully at one with him. "This work," he says, "is intended to be a record of progress. It will show how cautiously and yet how surely, the naturally Conservative English mind has been working out its own religious position. At the Reformation we awoke to a higher sense of duty. All the problems of religion, indeed, are not yet solved, but our position to-day is sufficient to convince us that truth is to be found in the path we have chosen."

We do not wish to take Mr. Hunt's words, and wrest them to an extreme meaning. But according to this the truth of religion, for that is the word he uses in this passage, is like the absolute of Hegel, a mere becoming. We have

* *The Supernatural Origin of Christianity*. With Special Reference to the Theories of Renan, Strauss, and the Tübingen School. By GEORGE P. FISHER, D.D., Professor of Church History in Yale College. New and enlarged edition. (New York: Scribner and Co.)

Religious Thought in England. From the Reformation to the End of Last Century. A Contribution to the History of Theology. By the Rev. JOHN HUNT, M.A., Author of "An Essay on Pantheism." Vol. I. (Strahan and Co.)

not reached truth yet, but truth is to be reached by the efforts of the individual reason faithfully exercised upon the Scriptures as being central to many of the problems of religion. This, of course, is another form of Rationalism: Mr. Hunt probably would not repudiate the term Rationalist as applied to himself. But the final result of it is that revelation is only subjective—a revelation to each man according as he uses his reason. There are surely other elements in the problem which need another term to express them, else what is to come of the mighty mass, who have neither time nor opportunity to reason out a position for themselves; and who yet need to realise a religious truth? What truth, then, is there for them? An objective revelation, will Mr. Hunt say? Then we have an esoteric and an exoteric religion—a double ganger of a perplexing scarecrow, which has never yet done more than to preach a mining and most impotent message. In view of the masses, the problem is complicated by the necessity for authority of some kind or other. Men like Mr. John Hunt, Mr. Matthew Arnold, *et hoc genus omne*, may support themselves on the high fare of reason; but there are crowds who cannot rise to their self-sufficing altitudes. Mr. Hunt's eulogium of Hooker, might lead us, were we inclined to dwell upon it, into the question as to the bearing of the extreme Rationalistic idea on the principle of a State Church, on which it seems, Mr. Hunt holds very decided views. For this we have no space. Dr. Fisher is right when he says:—

"The mystic and the rationalist meet on the common ground of a renunciation of objective authority, the one relying ultimately upon subjective reason, the other upon subjective feeling, for all his convictions of religious truth. And hence the Mystic is found to pass over, not unfrequently, by a natural and easy transition, to the position of the Rationalist, the difference between them often depending, for the most part, on a diversity of temperament and education."

And Dr. Fisher might have added that both somewhat ignore the needs of the common run of mankind. But of this enough. Mr. Hunt has produced in its own way a masterly book, which will prove to be of vast value alike to the theologian and to the historical student.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

The fourteenth annual congress of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science was opened at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Wednesday. In the afternoon there was a special service at St. Nicholas Church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Norris, who selected as his text the words, "God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness," &c.

The inaugural address at the evening meeting was delivered by the President, the Duke of Northumberland. His Grace observed that the Association could hardly have selected a place of meeting in which several important questions were more prominently brought into notice, or more peremptorily required solution. After reference to the historical associations connected with the district, he alluded to recent social changes as signs of the tendencies animating the mass of our nation. His Grace touched on the importance of national unity, of local self-government, and sanitary legislation. He thought the Government Education Bill was only a preliminary measure. After referring to emigration, the President passed to the subject of the repression of crime, the treatment of lunatics, paupers, and vagrants, and the importance of instituting reformatories for adults, and concluded by the expression of a hope that the discussions of the week would be pervaded by a desire to ameliorate the existing rather than to take to pieces the actual framework of society. A vote of thanks to the Duke of Northumberland was proposed by Sir Stafford Northcote, seconded by Mr. HEADLAM, and carried by acclamation. A vote of thanks was also passed to Sir S. Northcote for his conduct as President for last year.

At the general meeting of the Congress on Friday, Lord Neaves delivered his address as president of the Jurisprudence Department. In the section devoted to jurisprudence a discussion took place on the desirableness of prohibiting the export of contraband of war. Papers against prohibition were read by Mr. Westlake and Mr. Waddelove, and in favour of it by Mr. Dickinson, M.P. In the Economic Section, Mr. Edwin Chadwick read a paper against standing armies; and resolutions, declaring that the system of standing armies had failed on the Continent when opposed to national armies, and calling on our Government to adopt the latter principle, were proposed, but not pressed. In the Municipal Section, the question of establishing tribunals of commerce was introduced by Mr. Daniels, Q.C., and an opinion expressed in favour of extending the jurisdiction of County Courts to commercial questions. In the Education Department, Dr. Lyon Playfair presiding, the questions discussed were the connection between the primary and secondary schools and the Universities, and the appointment of a Minister of Education. In the Health Department, the subject of adulteration was discussed at length; and in the Repression of Crime Department, a discussion took place on the subject of remunerative prison labour, Mr. George Odger opposing competition between prison and free labour. Dr. Gordon contributed a

paper on Scotch law, which he urged should be extended to England.

On Saturday a letter was read from Earl Russell, in which he said that troops armed and organised, and ships armed and manned, ought not to be allowed by neutrals to leave their shores for the purpose of assisting either belligerents; but beyond this he would not go. A meeting of ladies, presided over by Mrs. Pennington, also took place on Saturday. Mrs. Butler protested against the insult offered to the women of England by the proposal of a Royal Commission to inquire into the operation of the Contagious Diseases Act. This she regarded as an agency for facilitating the carrying out of these measures which she emphatically condemned. On the same day a meeting of workmen was held to consider the subject of working men's clubs and institutes. In the evening the supporters of the peace movement had a large gathering in the Town Hall. Resolutions were passed asserting that standing armies should be abolished, and that international disputes ought to be settled by arbitration.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

Mr. F. W. CHESBON, the Secretary of the Aborigines Protection Society, read a paper on this subject. He remarked that our whole policy towards China had been affected by our connection with the fatal poppy; and that, judged by a moral standard, it was impossible to regard with complacency either the past history or the present position of the opium-traffic. He contended that if we were not responsible for the acts of past generations, we were, at all events, responsible for compelling the Chinese to legalise the foreign opium-trade, and for taking up the ground, that whether the drug was harmful or not, India could not, and would not, give up the money she would lose by surrendering this branch of her revenue. He disputed the truth of the statement made by Mr. Grant Duff that "the cultivation of the poppy was a very favourite one." It was certainly not a favourite cultivation with the ryots, who were virtually coerced into growing opium, and who were so fleeced by Khutadars and other agents and spies of the Government, that, after they had paid their rent to the Zemindars, and conveyed their produce to Patna or Benares, their balance-sheet more frequently represented a loss than a profit. Having explained the nature of the oppressions from which the ryots suffered, he commented on the injury which was inflicted upon India by the extent to which the best soil of the country had been taken up with the cultivation of the poppy; and remarked, that if the richest lands of that empire were perverted from the beneficial function of supplying food for man to the production of poison for the Chinese, the revenue derived from the sale of that poison only exhibited one side of the account; there was another which should be represented, not only by the money value of the food which was lost to the people, but also by the enhanced price of every species of grain. The exceptional nature of our connection with this drug had vitiated the whole of our relations with the Chinese empire. He pointed out that the Chinese themselves did not at all adopt Mr. Grant Duff's estimate of the innocent nature of opium-smoking, and against the extravagant statement of the Under Secretary for India he placed the successive edicts of Chinese emperors; the testimonies of innumerable travellers, missionaries, and medical men; and the denunciations of even the victims of the hateful system. Opium was described by the Chinese as being "just like the white ants: it destroys the body just as the white ants destroy the wood." He quoted from a report of Mr. D. B. Robertson, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, to prove that Indian opium was more injurious to the constitution than the product of the Chinese poppy. Dealing with Mr. Gladstone's argument, that the opponents of the traffic must prove that the use of the stimulant was so exceptionally pernicious as to justify the employment of exceptional means for its suppression, he declared that, as a rule, there was and could be no such thing as moderation in opium-smoking. Indulgence in the vice constituted in every instance an act of intoxication, and the habit, if persisted in, infallibly destroyed both body and mind. An Indian merchant thought that the Government should abandon the cultivation altogether, "maintaining a very strict check upon it, and imposing heavy excise duties"; while Sir William Muir, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces, had also expressed himself strongly in favour of the separation of the Government from the traffic. In reply to the argument, that if opium were no longer sent from India to China, the only effect would be to increase its cultivation in the latter country, he said that if the Chinese insisted upon poisoning themselves in spite of our stopping the supply from India, we should at all events cease to share the guilt. At present the Chinese might fairly argue, that if opium was to be forced upon them they had better cultivate it for themselves, because they could grow it cheaper, and of a quality less deleterious, than the preparation which they now received at the hands of Christian Englishmen. But Pagan justice might yet prove itself wise and powerful enough to employ strong measures to rid the country of a curse which, so long as it existed there, must torment the conscience and humiliate the pride of every upright man of English blood who contemplated the future of the Flowery Land.

In the discussion which followed Mr. GEORGE CAMPBELL, late Chief Commissioner of Oude, demurred to the statement that the ryots objected to cultivate opium, but expressed himself as favourable to Sir William Muir's views.

PRISON INDUSTRY.

An interesting paper, by Mr. William Tallack, of London, on the alleged competition of Prison Labour

with Free Industry, was contributed to the Newcastle Social Science Congress. The following is an abstract:—

In the county and borough prisons the increase of remunerative labour has been so decided as to have called forth the criticism and active opposition of a trades' union of netmakers and weavers; who have, by a deputation to the Home Secretary, complained of the augmented prison labour as threatening unfair competition with outside industry. This objection has been met on many occasions, and especially recently (both by the press and platform) by the Howard Association. There being on a daily average only eighteen thousand prisoners in England and Wales to a population of more than twenty millions, it follows that, even if all the prisoners were usefully occupied, the competition with outside labour would be but very small. But when it is remembered that about three-fourths of these prisoners are imprisoned for very short terms (far too short to alter their evil habits), which do not admit of any trade being taught, the competition of the remainder becomes almost infinitesimal, and merely in a ratio of a few farthings at the utmost. Further, if the prisoners are not taught trades they become a dead weight on the ratepayers, and, on their discharge, resume plunder and outrage on a most costly scale to the public. In addition to this, all the moral and religious aspects of the question are on the side of useful and reformatory training.

The Howard Association has, however, often represented that mat-making forms too exclusive and disproportionate a part of English prison labour. This they have repeatedly urged upon prison authorities, and it is satisfactory to find that increased endeavours are being made to secure more variety of occupation. In a letter to the writer, from the trade agent of Wakefield Prison (dated July 29, 1870), he says:—"In one of your pamphlets, lately, you give credit to some gaols for teaching various trades, but as regards ourselves (Wakefield), you say we are 'too much given to mat and matting-making,' which I admit, to some extent, is true: still, I cannot refrain from stating that we not only complete or improve many an apprentice, or self-taught man, but we also employ a large number of prisoners at many trades which are both useful and profitable to them in after life." By a list appended to this letter, it appears that, for example, there were then in Wakefield Gaol twenty men employed at shoe-making, twenty-one at tailoring, fourteen at lathes, sixteen as smiths, seven as gasmen, nine as painters, thirteen as masons, eleven as gardeners, twenty-four as cooks. In such proportions of really useful labour what would be the competition with the million workers of the West Riding? But, on the other hand, 644 inmates were employed in mat-making in different ways. This proportion should be greatly diminished.

Another Wakefield report to the Howard Association, dated August 3, 1870, says, respecting the use of steam power (the special object of some recent public protests):—"We do not make a single mat of any description by steam power. All our mats are made in the same way as those made by other persons, viz., by hand and hand-looms." The steam power is used for the long matting, but not for ordinary mats; also for pumping, and for turning various machines. The following statement is important as a refutation of the complaint of competition raised by the London mat-weavers:—"We cannot sell anything in London, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Birmingham, and several other large towns, for we do little or no business there; we are out out of the best towns by private makers."

Miscellaneous.

LECTURES TO WOMEN.—The scheme of lectures for women at Cambridge for the October term has just been issued. It includes lectures on English history, English literature, English language and literature, Latin, Greek, German, French, algebra, and the principles of arithmetic, practical arithmetic, geometry, elementary physics treated historically, logic, political economy, geology, chemistry, harmony and thorough bass, and theory of sound in its application to music popularly and experimentally treated. Persons wishing to attend any of the lectures are desired to apply to H. Sidgwick, M.A., Trinity College, on or before October 1st.

THE WHEAT AREA OF 1870.—Mr. James Sanderson writes to the *Times*:—"The agricultural returns of Great Britain for 1870 show, as I anticipated in my harvest report, that the area under wheat this year is greatly under average. Compared with that of 1869 there are 195,226 acres short, and with that of 1868 158,994 acres deficient. Assuming the average acreage wheat-yield of Great Britain to be 30 bushels, there are, in 1870, from a decrease of area, 5,856,780 bushels short of last year. Taking the acreage yield of wheat this year at 30 bushels, and allowing two bushels per acre for seed, the total wheat produce available for consumption is a little over 12,000,000 quarters."

THE EDUCATION ACT.—In reply to communications addressed to the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., Vice-President of the Council on Education, with reference to the 5th section of the Education Act, it has been stated that no definite rule can be laid down with regard to what proportion of the population of a parish school accommodation should be provided for, or the superficial or cubical area that will be accepted as sufficient for any child or number of children. The managers of schools, it is suggested, should bear in mind that it is rarely found that a school can be efficiently worked with less than eight square feet per child of area, and eighty feet of cubical space, in the main room and class rooms.

NEW POSTAL REGULATIONS.—The following is a summary of the changes to take place at the end of this month:—"On and after the 1st of October, postage stamps of the value of three-halfpence will be issued for sale to the public. On and after the 1st of October the rate of postage on registered news-

papers will be one halfpenny for every newspaper, whether posted singly or in a packet. Every paper must be so folded as to admit of the title being readily inspected. The postage on *bona fide* patterns and samples will be one halfpenny for every weight of two ounces or fraction of that weight. No packet must exceed twelve ounces in weight or two feet in length by one foot in width or depth. Post cards bearing a halfpenny stamp will be sold at all post-offices at the rate of one halfpenny each. The front is intended for the address only; on the reverse side any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise, may be written or printed. The book post will be reduced to one halfpenny for every two ounces or fraction of that weight.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE IRISH MAIL TRAIN.—The coroner's inquiry into the circumstances under which the accident occurred to the Irish mail train on the 14th instant, by which several lives were lost, was brought to a conclusion on Saturday. The evidence given threw fresh light on the facts of the case, and on the system, the defects in which contributed largely to the sad catastrophe. Evans received the highest character for diligence from the officials of the company, and there was no attempt to establish any act of carelessness on his part. It was stated in the course of the evidence that, although a telegram had been received at Tamworth station half an hour before the mail arrived, notifying that the mail had come out of its order, no notice of this telegram was given, or required by rule to be given, to the pointsman, the only man to whom such intelligence was valuable. Evans was required to make up his mind in a second or two which of the two trains was in sight by the very unreliable distinction, in a dark morning, between a green light and a white light, one whistle and two whistles. The company admit their error by taking steps to have the telegraph for the future in the pointsman's box. The jury had some difficulty in coming to a decision, but a verdict was ultimately returned against Evans, the signalman, of manslaughter.

Gleanings.

It is stated that opium-eating and opium-smoking is increasing alarmingly in the United States.

Professor Oliver W. Holmes is said to be engaged on a new volume of essays.

It is stated that the Gatling gun (mitrailleuse) will be adopted by the British Government.

Mdlle. Nilsson is to receive the sum of 25,000*l.* for six months' singing in America.

"My dear," said a sentimental wife, "home, you know, is the dearest spot on earth." "Well, yes," said the practical husband, "it does cost about twice as much as any other spot."

A London milkman who had been detected in watering his master's milk after it had left the yard, a practice known in the trade as "bobbing," was tried at the Central Criminal Court on Monday, and sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

The lady principal of a school, in her advertisement, mentioned her female assistant, and the "reputation for teaching, which she bears"; but the printer left out "which," so the advertisement went forth commending the lady's "reputation for teaching she bears."

The father of Dorabella recently found that little girl's chubby little hands full of the blossoms of a beautiful tea-rose, on which he had bestowed great care. "My dear," he said, "didn't I tell you not to pick one of those flowers without leave?" "Yes, papa," said Dorabella; "but all these had leaves."

In an article on "The Scientific Basis of Theology," the *Modern Thinker*, a New York magazine, says:—"History is the struggle of the human in the direction of theanthropy, eventuating in incarnation, and having for its end the ultimate historical synthesis of the human with the God-consciousness."

In the course of a case which was heard at the London Mansion-house, on Thursday, Mr. Robert Attenborough, a pawnbroker, told the Lord Mayor that since the declaration of war, between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* had been paid by him alone in respect of articles pawned.

A Massachusetts editor says:—"A man who is owing us a little bill said he would call last week and pay us if he was alive. He still appears in the street, but, as he did not call, it is naturally supposed he is dead, and is walking about to save funeral expenses."

The foundering of the Captain has greatly shaken the confidence of the sailors in ships of the Monitor type. The Cerberus, a powerful armour-plated turret-ship, which has been constructed for the defence of Melbourne, is now ready for sea, but the greatest difficulty is experienced in obtaining men to work her out to Australia.

A farmer wrote as follows to a distinguished scientific agriculturist, to whom he felt under obligations for introducing a variety of swine. "Respected Sir,—I went yesterday to the cattle-show. I found several pigs of your species. There was a great variety of hogs, and I was astonished at not seeing you there."

We find the following in an American paper:—"An elderly gentleman, returning home on Sunday from church, began to extol the merits of the sermon to his son. The following short dialogue tells the story:—"I have heard, Frank," said the old gentleman, "one of the most delightful sermons ever delivered before a Christian society. It carried me

to the gates of heaven." "Well, I think," replied Frank, "you better have dodged in; for you will never have such another chance."

HOW TO HASTEN A REFRACTORY JURY TO A FINDING.—The following plan is said to have been lately pursued in order to hasten the decision of a refractory jury, who were looked up to consider their verdict. It was past supper-time, and the court officials had no wish to pass the night in waiting upon the twelve good men who were deliberating on their verdict. A large dish of beefsteak, fried with onions, giving off a body of aroma sufficient to fill the largest hall in England, was brought into the passage close to the door of the unhappy juryman's prison. The door was opened, the cover taken off the dish, the aroma of the steaks and onions floated in, and invaded and pervaded every square inch of the little room. Mere mortal Englishmen couldn't stand out long against such an appetising aroma. A second opening of the door and advancement of the dish clinched the matter, and enabled the jury to find a unanimous verdict.

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

BURN.—Sept. 27, at Epston, the wife of Robert Burn, jun., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

EVANS—DAVIES.—Sept. 1, at Grove street Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. R. Davies, of London, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. W. Ross, D.D., Michael Jones Evans, Esq., to Annie, eldest daughter of David Davies, Esq., 51, Catherine street, Liverpool.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending Wednesday, Sept. 21.

INDE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£35,919,120	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	5,981,000
		Gold Coin & Bullion	20,919,420
	£35,919,120		£35,919,120

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£12,448,390
Reserve	3,712,367	Time (incl. dead weight annuity)	17,615,49
Public Deposits	6,243,406	Other Securities	12,819,375
Other Deposits	18,356,234	Notes	£51,051
Seven Day and other	£95,361	Gold & Silver Coin	£43,799,367
Bills	£43,799,367		£43,799,367

Sept. 21, 1870. Geo. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Depression of Spirits, Debility.—Some defect in digestion is generally the cause of mental depression. On rectifying the disordered stomach the long list of gloomy thoughts retire, and is succeeded by more hopeful and happier feelings. Holloway's Pills have been renowned far and wide for effecting this desirable change without inconveniencing the morbidly sensitive or most delicate organism. They remove all obstructions, regulate all secretions, and correct depraved humours by purifying the blood and invigorating the stomach. Their medicinal virtues refresh, relieve, and stimulate every organ and gland in the body, whereby the entire system is renovated. No medicine ever before discovered acts so directly and beneficially upon the blood and circulation as Holloway's celebrated Pills.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Sept. 26.
We had a good supply of English wheat and liberal arrivals from abroad. The market to day has been extremely depressed, and prices unsettled. English wheat was held for some improvement, but little progress was made in sales, and factors accepted the prices of this day week. Foreign wheat was steady at former quotations. Country flour was without alteration in value. Peas and beans sold slowly at previous prices. Barley was in fair demand, and made former prices. Indian corn was rather more inquired after, at last week's advance. Of oats the supply on board ship is not so large, and prices have declined *ad. per qr.* since this day week, and many of the cargoes are being loaded. Cargoes on the coast meet little demand, at last week's quotations.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red	45 47	41 42
Do. new	45 47	41 42
White	49 71	45 46
Do. new	49 71	45 46
Foreign red	47 49	43 44
Do. white	49 51	45 46
BARLEY—		
English malting	30 34	21 22
Oatmeal	36 42	25 26
Distilling	35 38	25 26
Foreign	31 34	25 26
MALT—		
Pale	—	19 21
Oatmeal	—	19 21
Brown	49 53	19 21
BEANS—		
Flora	37 40	33 34
Harrow	40 44	33 34
Small	—	33 34
Egyptian	38 40	33 34

BREAD, London, Saturday, Sept. 24.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 4lbs. loaf, 7½*d.* to 8*d.*; Household Bread, 6½*d.* to 7*d.*

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Sept. 26.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 12,699 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 13,762; in 1868, 18,213; in 1867, 14,765; and in 1866, 17,553 head. In the cattle trade to day there has been rather less firmness observable. The receipts of stock have been less than the average, in consequence of the stoppage of 12,000 head at the water-side. In future all German and French beasts will be slaughtered at the place of debarkation, and only Dutch and Spanish allowed to pass the barriers. Both from our own grazing districts and from abroad the arrivals of beasts have been more numerous, nevertheless, although the supply has not been entirely destitute of good

animals, really choice stock has been the exception. As to breeds have made *ca. the 8lbs.*; but inferior qualities have only been disposed of, or easier terms. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire received about 1,700 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England about 300 of various breeds; from Scotland about 10, and from Ireland about 350 oxen. With sheep the market has been scarcely supplied. The trade has been dull, and prices have fallen to the extent of *ad. per 8lbs.*; for best Downs and half-breds 5s 8*d.* to 6s. per 8lbs. had been taken. Calves have been dull, and there has not been much demand for pigs.

For 8lbs. to sink the Off.

Inf. coarse beasts	2 6 to 4 4	Prime Southdowns	5 6 to 6 0
Second quality	4 6 to 5 10	Lamb	9 0 to 9 6
Prime large oxen	5 0 to 5 8	Lge. coarse calves	3 6 to 4 0
Prime 8s to 10s	5 8 to 5 10	Prime small	5 0 to 5 6
Coarse inf. sheep	3 8 to 4 0	Large hogs	4 0 to 4 2
Second quality	4 2 to 4 8	Neatam. porkers	5 6 to 6 2
Pr. coarse weaners	4 10 to 5 0		

Stuckling calves, 20s. to 22s., and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 24s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Sept. 26.—Limited supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been heavy, and prices have ruled as under.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef .	3 4	to 3 8	Prime ditto .	4 10	5 2
Middling ditto	3 8	4 0	Veal .	4 4	5 0
Prime large do.	4 8	5 0	Large pork .	3 4	4 0
Do. small do.	4 10	5 2	Small pork .	3 0	3 8
Inf. mutton .	3 8	4 0	Lamb .	0 0	0 0
Middling ditto	4 2	4 6			

PROVISIONS, Monday, Sept. 26.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 906 firkins butter and 2,947 hales bacon, and from foreign ports 19,337 packages butter and 643 hales bacon. The Irish butter market was very inactive. Foreign sold well, an advance of about 1s. realized on best quality; best Dutch 14s. The bacon market ruled slow, and some sales made at a reduction in prices, but best Waterford weekly orders still charged 78s. free on board. Hamburg declined 1s. per cwt. In lard more sales were made at 52*d.* on board for best bladdered.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Sept. 24.—The trade generally rules very heavy, and both wholesale and retail prices are somewhat lower, there being a large supply, which is considerably augmented from the effects of the late high winds. Amongst flowers we have Polyanthus (single and double), Asters, Dahlias, Lilliums, &c.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Sept. 26.—Our market is active, transactions being mostly confined to the new growth, which are well taken up on arrival, and show a marked improvement in quality on the early parcels received. Our plantations progress favourably, and should the present weather continue, the growth will be fully equal to recent estimates. Continental accounts are satisfactory as regards the progress of the crops. Latest New York advices report a very slow market, the business being of a retail character. Wealds, 3*l.* 6s., 3*l.* 1*l.*, to 4*l.* 10s.; Mid and East Kent, 4*l.* 0s., 5*l.* 5s. to 7*l.* 0s.; Sussex, 3*l.* 0s., 3*l.* 10s., to 3*l.* 15s.; Farnham and country, 4*l.* 10s., 5*l.* 5s., to 6*l.* 0s.; Old 1*l.* 0s., 1*l.* 15s., to 2*l.* 0s.

POTATOES.—Borough and Spitalfields.—Monday, Sept. 26.—These markets have been fairly supplied with potatoes. The trade has been steady at our quotations. The imports in London last week comprised 4 bales from Rotterdam, 60 tons Dunkirk, and 20 packages from Antwerp. English shaws, 70*l.* to 80*l.* per ton; Regents, 80*l.* to 100*l.* per ton; Rocks, 40*l.* to 60*l.* per ton.

SEED, Monday, Sept. 21.—New English cloverseed has appeared, and the first sample being of a very fine quality commanded a high price, from 8s. to 9s. per cwt. Foreign red samples were held quite as much in may. New white mustard seed was taken off to a fair extent, the makers have succeeded in reducing the price to 9s. and 10s. per bushel, with some quantity yet left unsold. A few remnants of new triolium are yet on hand, which can be obtained at 1*l.* to 1*l.* 5s. per cwt., under the top price of the season. Foreign canaryseed can be obtained at moderate rates. Good English was steady in value and demand. As new Dutch hempseed is now expected, prices of this article are lower, for common sorts. New winter sows can be bought at 2*d.* per bushel under last week's currency.

WOOL, Monday, Sept. 21.—The wool market has been without features of importance. More disposition to enter into transactions has been noticed, and all descriptions have been steady in value. However, business, as yet, has not been of an important nature.

OIL, Monday, Sept. 26.—Lined oil has been in request at full prices. Rape has been restricted. Cod-liver oil has been steady. Other oils have been in limited request.

TALLOW, Monday, Sept. 26.—The market has been firm. Y.C., on the spot, 4*l.* 3*d.* per cwt., old; 4*l.* 3*d.* per cwt., new. Town Tallow 4*l.* 9*d.* net cash.

COAL, Monday, Sept. 26.—Market firm at last day's rates. Huttons ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Huttons Russell ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Hartlepool (original) ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; ditto East ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Killybeg ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Lambtons ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Tunstall ditto, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Hartley's, 1*l.* 1*l.*; Tansfield, 1*l.* 1*l.*. Ships from arrived, 52; left from last day, 7; ships at sea, 25.

Advertisements.

A GENTLEMAN desires to obtain for a YOUNG LADY, 14 years of age, a SITUATION as GOVERNESS in a Christian family. She is qualified to teach the usual English subjects—Music, Singing, Drawing, French, and—to Junior Pupils—German.—Address, 8, L. Post-office, Park-lane, near Poole.

HOME and SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES.—Conducted by the Misses WHEAT and HADEN. Terms, 11 guineas the half-year, including French, Music, and Drawing.—The Terrace, Gresham, Spalding.

FOR SALE.—IRON CHURCH and LEOTURN HALL, capable of holding 1,000 and 20 persons respectively.—Apply to Henry Rydon, Esq., Highbury New Park, N.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 27, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, W.C. Beds, from 1s. 6*d.* Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 2*d.*

See Testimonials, of which there are a thousand in the Visitors' Book.

"We are more than satisfied; we are truly delighted to find in London so quiet and comfortable a domicile. We shall certainly highly recommend Shirley's to all our friends."—J. ROBERTS, Bourne.

"As on all previous visits, I can testify that this is the most comfortable home I find when away from home."—W. B. HARVEY, Fiume.

"After visiting various places in England, I have come to consider Shirley's (in view of its combining the greatest comfort and respectability, with the most moderate charges) as the Temperance Hotel par excellence."—J. K. Macdonald, Toronto, C.W.

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BRACELETS, NINEVEH, "	£10	0
BRACELETS, SAXON, "	£15	0
BROOCHES, ETRUSCAN, "	£2	10
BROOCHES, NINEVEH, "	£3	0
BROOCHES, SAXON, "	£4	0
BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, "	£5	0
CHAINS, PRINCESS, "	£2	0
CHAINS, CYLINDER, "	£3	0
CHAINS, CURB, "	£4	0
CHAINS, CABLE, "	£5	0
EARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, "	£1	10
EARRINGS, SAXON, "	£2	5
EARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, "	£3	5
EARRINGS, NINEVEH, "	£4	10
LOCKETS, ENGRAVED, "	£1	0
LOCKETS, CORDED, "	£2	10
LOCKETS, CROSS, "	£4	0
GOLD WATCHES, LADIES',	£8	8
GOLD WATCHES, "	£10	10
GOLD WATCHES, ½-PLATE,	£15	15
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING),	£11	11
GOLD WATCHES, ¾-PLATE,	£16	16
GOLD WATCHES, "	£20	0
GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS	£15	10
GOLD WATCHES, "	£22	0
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING),	£18	18
CLOCKS, CARRIAGE,	£5	0
CLOCKS, " (STRIKING),	£7	7
CLOCKS, " " (ON GONG),	£12	12
CLOCKS, LIBRARY (MARBLE),	£4	0
CLOCKS, " " "	£10	12
CLOCKS, " " "	£14	0
CLOCKS, " (ORMOLU),	£10	0
CLOCKS, " " "	£15	0

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CONGREGATIONAL UNION of ENGLAND and WALES.

The THIRTY-FIRST AUTUMNAL MEETING of the Congregational Union of England and Wales will be held at PLYMOUTH on MONDAY, October 10th, 1870, and three following days. The following Programme has been adopted, subject to alterations:—

MONDAY EVENING.

The Annual Sermon, by the Rev. R. D. Wilson, London.

TUESDAY.

MORNING SESSION.—Chairman's Address, Rev. J. C. Harrison, London; Address on Personal Religion, Rev. H. Simon, London; Paper on the Religious Life as affected by the leading forms of thought, &c., of the day, Rev. J. Hutchison, Ashton-under-Lyne.

EVENING SESSION.—An Address will be delivered by Pasteur de Faye, of Brussels, on the state of religion on the Continent as affected by recent and impending changes. Resolution to be moved by Rev. J. Smith, M.A., Sheffield. Sermon to Young Men, Rev. W. M. Statham, Hull.

WEDNESDAY.

MORNING SESSION.—Prayer Meeting. Special Subject of Prayer—The state of the country in regard to religion. Address by Rev. D. Hewitt, Exeter. Paper on the Missionary Work of the Congregational Churches, by Rev. J. A. Macfadyen, M.A., Manchester.

SECTIONAL MEETINGS:—

1. On Worship. Paper on Music in Worship, Rev. J. Curwen, Plaitow; Liturgical Forms, Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., Clapham.
2. On the Position of Congregationalism in Village Districts. Papers by Rev. T. W. Davids, Colchester, and Rev. W. M. Paull, Romsey.
3. On the Ministry. Paper by Rev. Dr. Stoughton, Kensington.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Sermon to Children by Rev. John Kennedy, M.A., Stepney. Sermon at Devonport, by Rev. W. Roberts, Holloway. Public Meeting for the Exposition and Enforcement of Free Church Principles. Chairman, Mr. Alfred Rooker; Speakers, Rev. Josh. Fletcher, Christchurch; Rev. H. H. Carlisle, LL.B., Southampton.

THURSDAY.

MORNING SESSION.—Prayer Meeting. Special subject of prayer—The state of other countries in regard to religion, with particular reference to the Continent of Europe, Professor Charlton.

Paper on the relation of the State to Religious Teaching in its bearing on the problem of National Education, and kindred questions, by Rev. F. S. Johnstone, Merthyr Tydfil. Report on the question of a Sustentation Fund.

EVENING.—A Conversation.

The following Railway Companies have consented to issue Return Tickets at a single fare from the 10th to the 14th October, to Members and Delegates of the Union:—Bristol and Exeter, North Devon, South Devon, Cornwall, and West Cornwall, and the South-Western from all Stations West of London.

Tourists' Tickets are issued by the Great Western Railway Company to parties taking more than one ticket, at greatly reduced rates.

ALFRED HANNAY, Secretary.

18, South-street, Finsbury, Sept. 27th, 1870.

DEVONSHIRE SQUARE CHAPEL, STOKES NEWINGTON ROAD.

(Ten Minutes from Kingsland Gate.)

Minister—Rev. W. T. HENDERSON.

The MEMORIAL STONE of the above Chapel will be LAID by the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR on MONDAY, October 3rd, 1870.

The Revs. W. Rogers, M.A., Rector of Blabopgate; C. H. Spurgeon, J. A. Spurgeon, O. Stovel, T. Binney, W. Ballantyne, M.A.; F. Tucker, B.A.; D. Katternes, Arthur Murrell, A. McAulane, J. Hobson, S. H. Booth, T. V. Symonds, T. W. Cave, LL.D.; J. Sizsons, G. D. Evans, W. Spenceley, W. Tyler, F.R.M.S.; Samuel Green, J. T. Wigner, R. Wallace, W. A. Blake, Phillip Gast, W. T. Henderson will take part in the proceedings.

The Service will commence at Half-past Two o'clock precisely. Admission by Ticket, which may be obtained of the Trustees. Tea will be provided.

The offerings placed on the stone and the collections made will be given to the Stockwell Orphanage.

H. A. HENDERSON, Hon. Sec.

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The Central Committee request that Local Committees will REMIT each WEDNESDAY, to Messrs. Coutts and Co., the AMOUNT COLLECTED during the preceding week, advertising the names of subscribers in the local newspapers, and sending a copy of the same to the Secretary. It is also urgently requested that they will have all materials of the same sort packed together, a list of contents written on each bale, and an invoice of the same sent to the Secretary every Saturday. The stores to be retained by Local Committees until orders are given about them.

In future subscriptions of less than 5s. will not be advertised separately.

Stores most wanted at present are flannel coats, shirts, trousers, and cholera belts.

The Committee cannot receive contributions sent for the wounded of one belligerent army, but will expend everything as impartially as possible.

C. J. BURGESS, Secretary.
2, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, Sept. 7, 1870.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.

At the Half-yearly Meeting held at 18, South-street, Finsbury, on Tuesday, September 27th, 1870, the following were the SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES:—

1550. Jones, Wm. Drakeford	669. Howells, John Charles
1108. Kilpin, Ernest Fuller	654. Morgan, William
1052. Evans, Edward Taylor	664. Lloyd, Richard
810. Thomas, Ephraim John	609. Field, Arthur

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W. WELLS KILPIN, Hon. Secs.
I. VALE MUMFERY,

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS, HORNSEY RISE, N.

The COMMITTEE are ready to RECEIVE the NAMES of CANDIDATES for the next ELECTION. Papers to fill up may be obtained at the office.

CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly solicited for this important charity, which has no funded property whatever, but depends wholly upon the benevolence of the Public. There are 104 Infants now in the Orphanage.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Secretary

Office, 73, Cheapside.

NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.

The SESSION of 1870-71 will COMMENCE on FRIDAY, the 30th of September. The Introductory Lecture will be delivered at Seven o'clock p.m., by the Rev. Professor NEWTH, M.A., F.R.S.

The Syllabus of Lectures, and all other necessary information respecting the Ministerial and Lay Student Departments, of the College, may be obtained on application to the undersigned, at the College, Finchley New-road, Hampstead, N.W.

W. FARRER, LL.B., Secretary.

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TERM COMMENCED SEPTEMBER 15th.

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The NEXT TERM BEGINS WEDNESDAY, October 5th.

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